

SPECIAL SECTION:
Kick up your Blow
Out a notch with The
Flat Hat's guide to
food & drinks



The Flat Hat

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<http://flathat.wm.edu>

Police apprehend suspected rapist



COURTESY PHOTO • JCC POLICE
Kermit Anthony “Tony” Gray, 22, was arrested in Newport News.

BY MICHAEL J. SCHOBEL
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

At approximately 2 a.m. this morning at a Newport News apartment complex, James City County police, with the help of the Surry County Sheriff’s Office, arrested the “person of interest” in the case of the Tuesday morning sexual assault of a female senior student at the Governor’s Square Apartment Complex.

According to James City County Police Deputy Chief Stan Stout, 22-year-old Kermit Anthony “Tony” Gray of Ironbound Road has been charged with one count of rape, one count of abduction, one count of robbery and one count of burglary with intent to commit robbery/rape while armed with a deadly weapon. He was also found to be in possession of marijuana and has been charged for that as well.

A 22-year-old student was reportedly raped at knifepoint in her apartment in Governor’s Square at about 4:00 a.m. Tuesday morning. According to a Nov. 30 article in

the online edition of the Daily Press, the victim and her three roommates, who are also female, had returned home two hours earlier from a night of studying. Stout said that the police suspect that the assailant entered the apartment through an unlocked door because there were no obvious signs of forced entry. The victim reported awakening with a man standing over her. He threatened to kill her and the woman with whom she shares her room, who also woke up. After the assault, the assailant escaped with two cell phones and over \$100 in cash. The cell phones were later recovered. The victim was treated at Sentara Community Hospital.

According to Stout, the victim described the assailant as a black male in his early 20s, 5 feet 7 inches to 5 feet 8 inches tall and of medium to stocky build. Stout said that police were led to Gray, who lives approximately a mile away from Governor’s Square, because he fits that description “to a T.” Gray had also previously been arrested twice at the Governor’s Square Apartment Complex for peeping into windows.

“A lot of these sex offenders start off doing little things like peeping toms and then graduate to other things,” Stout said.

According to Stout, Gray left for Newport News, seeking refuge with an acquaintance at some point Wednesday. Police compiled a list of his known acquaintances and “just started knocking on doors,” Stout said. “This was just good old-fashioned police work.”

Fingerprints and DNA samples have been sent to a lab for testing,

See RAPIST + page 4



COURTESY PHOTO • RENTAL-HOMES-VA.COM
Gray, who was taken in custody today at about 2 a.m., has been arrested twice previously for peeping into windows at Governor’s Square.

Block plans to return to Marketplace in spring

BY BRIAN MAHONEY
THE FLAT HAT

In response to widespread criticism and a recent student response survey, Dining Services has decided to restore meal options to the Marketplace. The new plans will take effect at the start of spring semester and will be accompanied by a reduction of Flex Points for all block plan users.

An unprecedented backlash from students contributed to the meal plan change. A recent survey conducted by the Food Advisory Committee showed a widespread preference for meal options at all dining locations. The survey was sent to 1,000 block plan users and Dining Services received 480 replies.

“The returns were mixed,” Resident District Manager Phil DiBenedetto said, “but the meal options were seen as more valuable by more individuals.”

To gain more student responses, the Food Advisory Committee also held six focus group meetings with students, asking for advice and opinions about the new plans and their potential for improvement. The group, initiated and organized by student volunteers, agreed the convenience of added Flex Points

was less important than the reintroduction of meal options to the Marketplace.

“To better understand the results the student representatives of the Food Services Advisory Committee helped us conduct the six focus group meetings,” DiBenedetto said. “In response to the student’s suggestions, we decided to change the block plans as stated above.” The change is also accompanied by a reduction in Flex Points for block plan users. Like the meal options, the amount of Flex Points is similar to last year’s. The largest reduction is in the Block 120 plan, where points have been reduced from \$300 to \$180. Block 60 has been reduced from \$375 to \$315 and Block 150 and 90 have both been cut by \$100.

It is unclear whether the new changes are profit-motivated, but financial statistics show that sales of meal options have decreased 30 percent in the Marketplace since the change. Flex Point and Student Express usage has only increased by 25 percent, suggesting a slight loss in profits.

“Meal plan purchases are slightly lower than last year, but Flex, William and Mary Express and cash sales are up from last year,” DiBenedetto said.



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT
Director of Dining Services Phil DiBenedetto

Concrete financial statistics have yet to be assessed, however, and a conclusive profit report will not be ready until the end of the school year. Nonetheless, preliminary statistics indicate substantial fluctuations in sales and location usage.

“Profits are based on a yearly budget and are affected by many factors throughout the year, so at this time it is difficult to assess any impact,” he said.

Change and reconsideration have been common characteristics of the College’s food administration, as shown by the many

See PLANS + page 4

BANG YOUR GAMELAN SLOWLY



NICHOLE SCHEER • THE FLAT HAT
The Gamelan orchestra performed their winter concert Tuesday at Wren Hall. They were joined by dancers from the Indonesian embassy.

Restructuring plan approved by Gov. Warner, moves to General Assembly

BY AUSTIN WRIGHT
FLAT HAT INSIGHT EDITOR

Governor Mark Warner approved the College’s Restructuring plan Nov. 15, moving the College one step closer to a more reliable financial relationship with the commonwealth. The plan now awaits a vote in the General Assembly, which begins session in January and should decide by spring.

Warner’s approval granted the College Level 3 status under the Virginia Higher Education Act of 2005. The University of Virginia and Virginia Tech also gained Level 3 status, allowing them the most flexibility in managing their day-to-day operations.

In its last session, the General

Assembly passed the Restructuring Act, which requires each public college and university to create a six-year plan outlining how it will meet state needs.

In return, the state will increase the College’s independence from regulation while offering “steadier revenue streams.” President Gene Nichol said at a Sept. 12 forum.

“We hope the state will rein-vigorate funding,” Associate Vice President for Public Affairs Bill Walker said, adding that funding is now fairly modest.

According to Walker, Virginia currently provides \$8,900 per in-state student, while North Carolina and Maryland provide \$19,900 and \$14,200, respectively.

Virginia’s reputation for having exceptional state colleges and uni-

versities stems from a “tradition of support which has been eroded in recent years,” Walker said. “Sooner or later the impact of lower funding will take a toll.”

Despite declining state support, Nichol has said he plans to continue the College’s public mission and hopes that the Restructuring Act will result in higher levels of financial support.

“Tuition will go up. There’s no question about that,” Provost Geoffrey Feiss said.

The amount of the increase depends on how much money the commonwealth provides.

Vice President for Financial Affairs Sam Jones, who led the development of the College’s financial component of the Restructuring plan, created three funding

scenarios and estimated tuition increases over the next six years for each model. Sam Jones was on vacation and unavailable for comment.

In the first scenario, the state increases support from 42 percent of the College’s academic budget to 66 percent. Under this model, tuition for in-state students will rise an average of \$239 per year. The second scenario shows that tuition would rise an average of \$352 per year if the state continues to fund 42 percent of the academic budget. The third scenario shows that tuition would rise an average of \$587 per year if the state continues to give the same monetary funds that it gave this year, which would

See WARNER + page 4

Alumnus killed in firefight with insurgency in Iraq

BY MICHAEL J. SCHOBEL
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

Donald Ryan McGlothlin, ’01, was killed Nov. 16 during a firefight in Ubaydi, Iraq, the Nov. 18 online edition of The Washington Post reported.

The 26-year-old graduate, a Marine second lieutenant assigned to the Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, was participating in Operation Steel against the Iraqi insurgency.

A chemistry student, McGlothlin graduated from the College four years ago with honors and was a

member of Phi Beta Kappa. McGlothlin grew up in Lebanon, Virginia, where he played tight end and defensive end for his high school’s football team and graduated in 1997 as valedictorian of his class.

He was continuing his studies at Stanford University, earning a master’s degree in chemistry and planning to pursue a doctorate when he decided to join the Marines in 2003.

“I just don’t feel like I’m doing something that matters,” McGlothlin told his father, the Post reported. “I want to serve my country. I want to protect our lands from terrorists, so I

joined the Marines.”

McGlothlin’s father said he tried to dissuade him but could not, the Post reported.

“Dad, I’ve been privileged, much more than most Americans,” McGlothlin said, “Why should people who aren’t as privileged have to bear all the brunt of defending our nation?”

McGlothlin had been a member of ROTC while at the College but had to drop out because of a respiratory problem he had as a child.

McGlothlin’s friend and former roommate, Geoff David, ’01, characterized McGlothlin as the “embodiment of a good person.”

“The Ryan that I knew was passionate about so many things, but he took a while to get to know because he was very soft-spoken,” David said. “[He had] an amazing sense of integrity and an amazing drive to do what was right.”

David added that for McGlothlin everything was an important decision and he never jumped into anything unprepared.

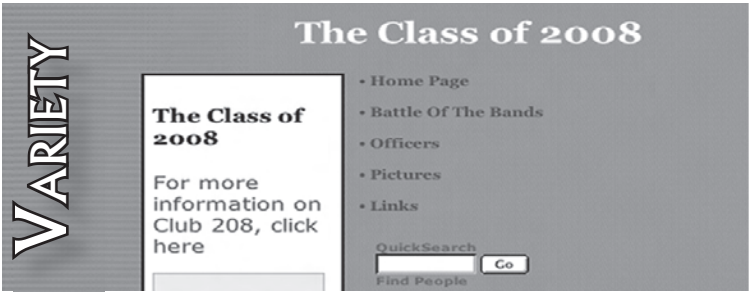
Professor Emeritus Dick Kiefer remembered McGlothlin as one of his top students, the Nov. 19 online edition of the William & Mary News reported. The two worked closely together on a research project for the NASA Langley Research Center.

See ALUMNUS + page 3



COURTESY PHOTO • SPACEFLIGHTNOW.COM
Ryan McGlothlin worked with Professor Dick Kiefer on a NASA-funded research project to develop building materials for use on Mars.

Inside this week’s issue



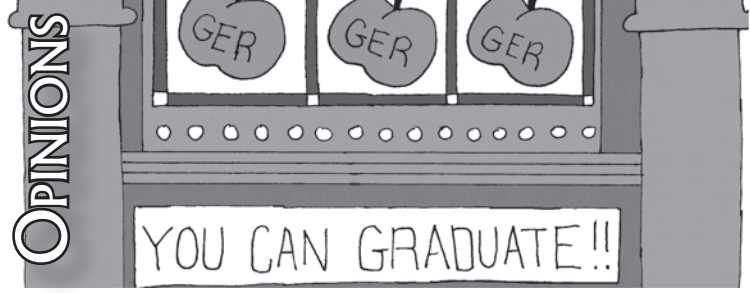
The SA representatives for the class of 2008 have been working hard lately. They announced a dance party and unveiled a new website this week.

See PARTY, page 7.



Jennifer Aniston takes a wrong turn in the off-the-tracks antics of “Derailed,” which combines weak acting and a dull story to create an incompetent movie.

See ‘DERAILED,’ page 11.



The current system transforms the student body into a sperm fighting to get to a limited number of eggs.

See REGISTRATION, page 5.



After a string of disappointing losses, football ends its season with a 5-6 record a no chance at making the playoffs.

See FOOTBALL, page 13.



Spill coffee all over your issue of The Flat Hat? Visit The Flat Hat online to read today’s issue. You can also download a copy of the Food & Drink Guide where you’ll learn exciting cooking tips for easy, do-it-yourself dishes.

See <http://flathat.wm.edu/>

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The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words, columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to fltopns@wm.edu.
The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions.
The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets weekly to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by the Editor or a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.
The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.
In the Nov. 11 issue of The Flat Hat, in the article “Nichol’s salary nearly three times greater than average professor’s,” The Flat Hat reported that the average tenured professor makes \$106,000. This figure was only based on the salaries of full professors and incorrectly suggested that it was a composite of all levels of professors.

Beyond the ‘Burg

♦ INTELLIGENT DESIGN CLASS
SPARKS DEBATE, CONTROVERSY

(U-WIRE) LAWRENCE, Kan. — A controversial University of Kansas intelligent design class to be taught next semester has spurred debate among state legislators that isn’t likely to end before the legislature returns to session Jan. 9.

The department of religious studies formally approved the class, formerly known as “Special Topics in Religion: Intelligent Design, Creationism and other Religious Mythologies” Monday, but renamed it by removing the words “and other Mythologies.”

A statewide debate about the class heated up when its professor, Paul Mirecki, sent an e-mail to a 92-person yahoo.com list serve that serves as a discussion board for the Society of Open-Minded Atheists and Agnostics, a student group with 121 members for which Mirecki is the faculty adviser.

“The fundies want it all taught in a science class, but this will be a nice slap in their big fat face by teaching it as a religious studies class under the category ‘mythology,’” Mirecki, chairman of the religious studies department and faculty member since 1989, wrote in the Nov. 19 e-mail.

State legislators said they would discuss the class when they return to session, and some said they would consider taking action against the university.

“I’m very disappointed that this professor seems to think he can use taxpayers’ dollars to teach a class that will poke a stick in the eye of conservative Christians out there,” Sen. Kay O’Connor (R-Olathe) said. ...

“The legislature does have the authority to fund and de-fund anything, period,” she said. ...

Rep. Bob Bethell (R-Alden) said he was concerned that the class wouldn’t be taught fairly based on Mirecki’s e-mail, but he was wary of legislative action against the university.

“I don’t think that the legislature should really be in the position of managing what the course work is,” he said. “However, I think that any course work should be determined on the basis of teaching people how to think, not what to think.”

— By Frank Tankard, University Daily Kansan (U. Kansas)
— compiled by austin wright

WEEKEND
WEATHER

Friday

High 51°
Low 30°

Saturday

High 51°
Low 40°

Sunday

High 61°
Low 41°

Source: www.weather.com

POLICE
BEAT

Tuesday, Nov. 15 — A staff member reported that she received harassing phone calls while on Landrum Drive. **1**

Wednesday, Nov. 16 — A parking sign was reported stolen from behind the fraternity complex. **2**

— Vandalism was allegedly committed on a generator at the Commons dining hall in the form of a spray-painted image. **3**

Thursday, Nov. 17 — A student reported receiving obscene, annoying phone calls at Hughes Hall. **4**

Friday, Nov. 18 — Vandalism allegedly occurred at Blair Hall in the form of a picture taped in front of the first floor elevator. **5**

— A student reported that his bicycle, valued at \$400, was taken from the bike rack at Yates Hall. **6**

Saturday, Nov. 19 — An anonymous caller reported a loud party with alleged underage drinking at the Ludwell apartments. **7**

— A female student reported that she was assaulted by her ex-boyfriend at Hughes Hall. **4**

— A mechanical room door and gas cap were allegedly vandalized at the fraternity complex. **2**

— A caller reported an intoxicated female near Barrett and Jefferson Halls. She was located and deemed to be in need of medical treatment. **8**

— Summonses were issued to a student for alleged possession of marijuana and alleged underage possession of alcohol. The student was arrested in the Botertourt woods. **9**

Sunday, Nov. 20 — Two students were referred to administration for underage possession of alcohol in New Campus. **10**

— A student reported that her bicycle was stolen at Barrett Hall. The bicycle is valued at \$100. **8**

— A student reported being harassed over the internet at Spotswood Hall. **9**

Tuesday, Nov. 22 — Two students reported that their laptop computers, valued at \$2,000 and \$1,700, were stolen from their dorm rooms at Kappa Delta Rho. **2**

Saturday, Nov. 26 — A student was referred to administration for alleged possession of drug paraphernalia at the graduate house. **11**

— compiled by austin wright

STREET BEAT :

How are you going to spend your winter break?

I think I’m being forced to go into nature: the Adirondacks. I hate nature.

♦ Bayley Butler, sophomore

I’m going to work and go to the Outer Banks for a week.

♦ Ashley Crews, sophomore

I’m going to be teaching a kindergarten class for two weeks: sing and play with Miss Kay.

♦ Kay McLaughlin, junior

Going home to mooch off my parents and sleep.

♦ Becca Dickason, senior

— photos and interviews by lizzy spencer

Business school named for millionaire

By MEERA FICKLING
THE FLAT HAT

Ushering in a new beginning for one of the College’s most popular departments, President Gene Nichol announced the naming of the Mason School of Business Nov. 11. Its namesake, Raymond “Chip” Mason, is the prominent CEO of Legg Mason, Inc., the fifth largest mutual fund and money manager in the nation.

“The School of Business is poised on the edge of greatness and is ready to reach out and grasp it,” Nichol said during the naming ceremony, calling Mason “one of the nation’s finest and most accomplished business leaders, a tremendous friend and an important inspiration to our community.”

Mason has been heavily involved in the school since its inception in 1967, developing its fund-raising strategy and using personal visits and phone calls to raise tens of millions of dollars, according to Lawrence B. Pulley, dean of the business school.

“Today we are aligning our business school with a business leader who is known for integrity, known for innovation and known for achievement,” Pulley said during the ceremony. “He is one of William and Mary’s finest sons, and he is locking arms with us in our effort to build a truly



COURTESY PHOTO • WILLIAM & MARY NEWS
Raymond Mason, a founder of the financial services firm Legg Mason, has been involved in the business school since its inception.

great Mason School of Business at the College of William and Mary.”

Mason is enthusiastic about the prospects of the newly named school. “I’m not sure I can adequately express how flattered

and humbled and appreciative I am,” he said. “I loved this school as a student and have continued to cherish it over the years. It’s a wonderful institution filled with outstanding and dedicated people, and its history is long and

proud.” Mason graduated from the College in 1959 with a major in economics and founded Mason and Co., the forerunner to Legg Mason, in 1962. Legg Mason currently holds \$830 billion in assets, earning \$2.5 billion in revenue in the last fiscal year. Mason’s personal stake in the business is currently valued at approximately \$280 million.

CBS Marketwatch named Mason the CEO of the year, and Forbes Magazine called Legg Mason the “best managed diversified financial firm.” Mason also received the Alumni Association’s Alumni Medallion in 1983, an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the College in 1998 and the T.C. and Elizabeth Clarke School of Business Medallion in 2001.

Mason is chair of the board at Johns Hopkins University and a member of the executive committee at Johns Hopkins Medicine. He has also chaired the Securities Industry Association, the Board of Governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers, the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education, the United Way of Central Maryland Campaign and the Greater Baltimore Committee.

A new business school building is scheduled to open in 2009. The last school to be named was the Marshall-Wythe School of Law in 1953.



NICHOLE SCHEER • THE FLAT HAT
SA Director of Internal Affairs junior Victor Sulkowski provides a presentation to senators about the development of the SA’s website.

Senate votes down anti-Coca-cola bill

By HEATHER KEELON
THE FLAT HAT

The SA Senate convened Tuesday night in Blow Hall for the final meeting of the semester. The main bill presented was the Consumer Freedom Act, an opinion of the Senate presented by junior Sen. Sean Barker, sophomore Sen. Cait Smith and freshman Sen. Stephanie Glass.

In recent years, consumers around the world have made various accusations concerning the Coca-Cola Company. These include the drying up of ground water and production of toxic sludge in Kerala, India, the abuse and coercion of Turkish union organizers and the death of a worker in Colombia. Mexico has imposed anti-monopoly fines on the company. Countries such as Portugal and Belgium have begun to withdraw Coke products and the Italian government accuses it of violating anti-trust laws.

The College carries only Coca-Cola products. Due to the company’s alleged “anti-human” practices, the presenters of the bill believe the student body should be offered a choice on the products they consume, so long as it remains within the bounds of the College’s contract with Aramark.

Other institutions across the country have begun setting restrictions on the sale of Coca-Cola beverages, including New York University, which is the largest private university in the country. “It’s a worldwide issue,” Smith said. “There are 119 [other universities] that have campaigns.”

Argument in favor of the bill was not heard on the floor. The majority of the senate immediately voted down the bill and halted discussion. Though there were various reasons stated for the lack of debate, Smith said that part of the problem may have been the wording, which could have given the false impression that the Senate was asking the College to “ban” Coca-Cola products.

“There was absolutely a misunderstanding of the wording,” Smith said. “There was no wording in the bill at all about banning Coca-Cola. I think it was entirely about getting more options on campus.”

General awareness of the problem also contributed to the lack of support. When asked if the accusations against Coca-Cola were accessible to students, Barker replied, “not in America,” and Smith stated that it was possible in “certain circles.” However, it is not common knowledge and it is possible not all senators were familiar with the accusations.

There was also some questioning of the authenticity of the arguments against Coca-Cola. “I opposed the bill after doing a lot of research and finding that I could not prove that Coca-Cola committed these crimes and that the College makes a great deal of much-needed money off their contract with Coca-Cola,” freshman Sen. Matt Beato said.

The bill failed 6-14-0. Although the majority of the senate voted “no,” there was still some unease about the proceedings. “Even though I didn’t vote for the Consumer Freedom Act, the thing that upset me most was the lack of debate on the bill,” Beato said. “Senators Barker, Glass and Smith all put a lot of time into the Act, and they deserved to at least have a discussion on it in the Senate. I regret not speaking up in the meeting, to let people know my reasons for voting the way I did.”

Despite the failure of the bill in the Senate, the Tidewater Labor Support Committee, an organization on campus following the Coca-Cola accusations, will continue its research on the issue. “[The committee] is currently engaging in a campaign to increase awareness of the company’s performance, and we’ll continue to do that through next semester,” Tom Silverstein, president of Tidewater Labor Support, said.

The Senate was also presented with the updated SA webpage. Because the Senate webpage is one of the largest and most public sections of the SA, information is being switched over to a better server. Information on current legislation, agendas, votes and minutes will soon be available online. The new site is an effort to make the SA more personal and closer to students.

ALUMNUS

FROM PAGE 1

Dubbed “Mars Bars,” the project involved developing bricks that could one day be used to build structures to protect astronauts from radiation on Mars.

“Ryan took the project to new heights,” Kiefer said, the William & Mary News reported. “He made a lot of the first materials we studied. He was a very good student and a very pleasant person to know.”

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler described McGlothlin as “a man with unlimited potential

[and] a brilliant student of extraordinary character.”

He added that McGlothlin sets an example for everyone about being ready to make a sacrifice for a cause one values.

“We’ll never know what he would have accomplished had he lived longer,” Sadler said. “My own view is it would have been extraordinary.”

The McGlothlin family has extensive ties to the College. According to Sadler, both of McGlothlin’s parents, his brother and numerous relatives attended the College. McGlothlin-Street Hall is named for his relatives.

Counseling center holds week of workshops to ease students’ jitters before final exams

By JAMES DAMON
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Sarah Thomas received excellent grades during her finals freshman year. The problem is that she now feels a constant pressure to maintain her high GPA.

“Exams are really your grades,” Thomas, a history major, said. She, like many at the College, places high expectations on herself to always perform well during finals. The result of this pressure depends on the individual. Thomas said she reacts physiologically by coughing during exams, and little things easily distract her during testing.

But the Counseling Center and other campus groups want to help students remedy these problems, which can hinder academic performance. Through outreach programs this week, various campus groups are highlighting problems of and relating to stress, which is generally associated with final exams.

According to Michelle Alexander, a health educator at the King Student Health Center, “31.2 percent of students listed stress as a factor affecting their individual academic performance.” This information came from a study administered by the Health Center last spring. In addition, 24.6 percent of students listed insufficient sleep as another factor hindering per-

formance, and 68 percent of students felt overwhelmed by all they had to do at least one to 10 times last school year.

This evidence has caused many to speculate that increased stress has become a larger issue on campus as the school has become more selective.

“No, it has always been here. A certain amount of stress is actually healthy,” Associate Dean of Students Susan Mirrick said. “It is also what causes students to finally do the work they have fallen behind in during the semester, which allows them to eventually earn a decent grade rather than do poorly in the course. There is a continuum for stress.”

This continuum for stress varies from student to student. Unhealthy stress however, places an overwhelming amount of pressure on students to such a degree that academic performance is hindered. According to Mirrick, more students seek assistance from the Health Center for stress-related conditions, including problems sleeping, anxiety and depression, as finals approach.

A number of outreach programs on campus aim to prevent students from getting to the point at which stress becomes a major issue.

“We don’t just serve those that come to therapy,” Kate Elliot, a counseling center representative, said. Elliot presented an outreach program

this past Tuesday on managing test anxiety.

“It was definitely helpful,” Thomas said of Tuesday’s program. “I now know that I’m not unique.”

Other campus-wide events this week included Tuesday’s Destress Fest, sponsored by Health Outreach Peer Educators and a program on sleep concerns in college, also sponsored by the counseling center.

Students who missed these programs can still receive guidance. The Counseling Center, Health Center and the Office of the Dean of Students will all be available for students who need help during finals.

There are a number of strategies all students can use to manage stress. By preparing for finals, thinking positively and taking time to relax most students should be able to avoid stress-related problems.

“Any sport, craft or hobby can be stress-relieving when done healthfully,” Mary Clay, president of Health Outreach Peer Educators, said. She added that eating well and taking breaks between studying will also help to relieve stress.

As for Sarah Thomas, she has been practicing the deep breathing techniques she learned at an outreach program. Unfortunately, she couldn’t make it to the Destress Fest this year; she had too much work to do.

Facebook indicates student body leans left

By MAXIM LOIT
THE FLAT HAT

Facebook.com is now so widely used that it needs no introduction in a college newspaper. Almost 93 percent of freshmen at the College have accounts on the addictive online site

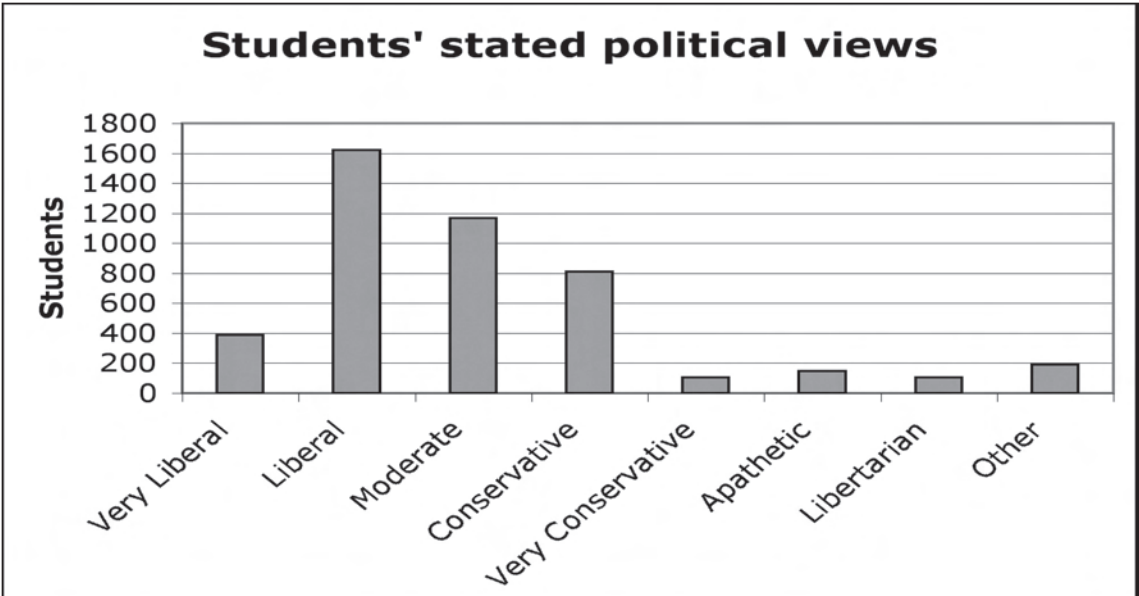
NEWS FEATURE

where they create profiles about themselves. With so many students listing information on Facebook,

it provides a useful opportunity to investigate the demographics of the College and uncover interesting facts.

Which gender has the most Facebook friends? What are the political views of students at the college? And what are the differences between in-state and out-of-state students? A randomized survey of almost 400 freshmen Facebook accounts, along with some use of Facebook’s advanced search tool, turned up the answers.

Not all data on Facebook can be believed. According to Facebook profiles, almost 10 percent of students are married, and Jesus Christ is an undergrad at the College. But after sorting out fake profiles and information, fairly accurate statistics are available for analysis. Celebrity profiles were eliminated from the survey by randomly selecting real



Data collected from the profiles of all students at the College listed on Facebook.com

names from the student directory and looking them up. Marriages were counted as “in a relationship” only if they were with someone of the sex that Facebook said they were interested in. Otherwise they were ignored. Data on political views is based on an advanced search of Facebook profiles from students at the College. All other statistics are drawn from a sample of approximately 400 profiles selected at random from the student directory.

The statistics for political views are relatively reliable, as they represent all the non-fictitious, searchable accounts on Facebook. The class of

2006 is the most liberal, with 50.9 percent of students calling themselves liberal or very liberal and just 17.5 percent selecting conservative or very conservative. In contrast, 42.5 percent of the class of 2009 listed liberal or very liberal on their profiles and 20.3 percent say conservative or very conservative. The percentages only include students who are on Facebook and list their political views, which includes 75 percent of freshmen and almost 52 percent of seniors. In line with national political surveys, females tend to be more liberal than males. However, there is only a very small difference

between the political views of in-state and out-of-state students.

Other comparisons can also be made using the randomized survey. For example, in-state freshmen are far more likely to be “in a relationship” than out-of-state freshmen. This could be due to in-staters knowing more people coming to the College. Females also tend to have more Facebook friends than males, averaging 105 friends while males have 94.

With so much data on the site, Facebook.com provides a useful tool for examining the social and political makeup of the College.

Got a hot lead?



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Under the MICROSCOPE

◆ COLLEGE PROFESSOR STUDIES DISEASE INFECTION IN INDIVIDUALS

By BECKY EASLEY
THE FLAT HAT

A weeklong visit to Berkeley to brainstorm ideas was only the beginning of College math Professor Sebastian Schreiber’s most recent publication in the November issue of *Nature*, a scientific journal. Schreiber worked with University of California Berkeley members for a little over a year to complete the article “Superspreading and the effect of individual variation on disease emergence,” which published findings from a study that examined how diseases spread.

The authors found that the infectiveness of one individual could affect the spread of a disease. Typhoid fever and severe acute respiratory syndrome are two diseases with which an individual has been able to infect a large number of people. Schreiber said that typhoid fever is best remembered by Typhoid Mary. Mary was a cook who, because she had an asymptomatic case, refused to stop working in the kitchen and consequently infected 50 people.

Schreiber and his co-authors found that different diseases have different variability as well. For instance, SARS has the highest variability of the eight diseases that the authors observed, and Ebola, which has a mortality rate of around 50 to 60 percent, has a very low variability.

The diseases used in the study were casual contact diseases that spread easily. The authors found that attacking a disease that is likely to spread by using individual-specific methods, such as quarantines or vaccinations, works more efficiently than population-specific methods, such as telling people to stay at home or to wash their hands if they feel sick.

This research project was very important to Schreiber, who said he was excited when he learned his findings would be published in *Nature*.

“When I got the e-mail from the editors, I let out a big holler that must have scared some of my colleagues in nearby offices,” Schreiber said.

Not only does Schreiber enjoy his work, but he, along with biology Professors Dan Cristol and John Swaddle, have begun to develop a set of mathematical-biology classes and research at the College. Schreiber teaches two upper level bio-math courses: mathematical biology and ecology evo-

lution metapopulations, which he co-teaches with Professor Swaddle. The three professors recently received a National Science Foundation grant to fund mathematical biology research. The grant is for five years and the professors said they hope to fund about 35 students.

The grant is unique for the College because it allows students to work independently in the biology or math fields. Students interested in working with Schreiber, Cristol and Swaddle should expect to spend two years on a project. Currently, there are six students working on the grant. Projects vary from observing reproductive response in lemurs in Madagascar to researching hurricane events to studying the evolution of dispersal. Furthermore, some students work with a number of different professors in the biology department and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and one student has traveled to Madagascar to collect data for his project.

Mathematical biology uses models to predict biological events. Schreiber began teaching bio-math classes two years ago and said that his classes have doubled in size since he started.

“The first few years I taught the introduction to mathematical biology course, I only had a dozen or so students,” Schreiber said. “This year I have about thirty.”

Schreiber said that he hopes the grant will involve multiple departments, including applied science, biology, chemistry, kinesiology and physics.



COURTESY PHOTO • GUARDIAN UNLIMITED
Professor Schreiber’s paper studied, in part, the infectiveness of SARS, a deadly respiratory disease.

World Beat: China Benzene leak panics Harbin

By JOE KANE
THE FLAT HAT

With a rapidly growing economy and an already enormous population, economic growth is coming to some extent at the expense of the environment. As its various industries continue to soar in terms of demand and productivity, environmental problems are also constantly on the rise. The Chinese government failed to predict the disaster that occurred a few weeks ago.

A massive explosion erupted Nov. 13 from a petrochemical plant, owned by the China National Petroleum Corp., the

of gasoline and can cause cancer, the Nov. 27 edition of CNN.com reported. For days, the government did not inform the people of Harbin of the developing situation and instead quietly shut off their water supply.

Initially, many Harbin residents panicked, buying as many bottles of water and soft drinks as possible, which resulted in skyrocketing prices and further shortages. Hospitals remained on high alert while businesses and schools closed their doors for an indefinite amount of time.

Some people even fled, causing most flights out of the city to be sold out, BBC News reported. On

which it tackled the problem. Currently, the Chinese government is trying to gain back its people’s trust and is apologizing both nationally and internationally, as the benzene flows into the adjoining Amur River in Russia toward Khabarovsk, a city of over 500,000.

As a sign of this newfound trust and increased dedication to protecting the environment, Zhang Zuoji, the governor of the Heilongjiang province, was the first person to drink a cup of Harbin’s water after it reportedly met national standards.

In addition, CNN reported, the Prime Minister of China, Wen

SITUATION:

The Chinese province of Heilongjiang received a scare this past week when an explosion from the China National Petroleum Corp. killed five people and injured 60 others. As a result of the explosion, a large amount of benzene, a poisonous toxin, was leaked into the Songhua River and the water supply of millions of residents of the city of Harbin, in northeastern Heilongjiang. The Chinese government responded by trucking in bottles of water for the residents and ensuring that a thorough and accurate investigation would be made into what caused the explosion. The explosion could have international implications. China apologized to the Russian government because the pollution has affected rivers in that country as well.

nation’s largest oil producer, the Nov. 23 edition of BBC News reported. It occurred in Jilin City, which lies on the Songhua River in northern China. Five people were declared dead on the spot and about 60 others were injured from the blast. Unfortunately, this proved only the beginning of the environmental woes to follow.

Situated about 230 miles south in the northeast Heilongjiang province, Harbin, a city of 3.8 million people, also sits on the shores of the Songhua River. Unbeknownst to these millions was the leakage of huge amounts of toxic waste from the plant into the river, enough to stretch over 50 miles. This poisonous substance, better identified as benzene, is used as a cleaning agent in the production

the other hand, there were those who remained relatively calm as the government assuaged their fears by sending in daily truckloads of fresh water and other supplies.

Cao Sijun, a 46-year-old taxi driver in Harbin, said that he filled every pot and container that he had with the fresh water, the Nov. 27 edition of *The Washington Post* reported.

After trying to cover up this chemical catastrophe with repeated lies, the Chinese government admitted last week that over 100 tons of benzene spilled into the Songhua River, the *Post* reported. Both the media and the people of Harbin unleashed a firestorm of criticism against the government and the haphazard way in

Jiabao, visited the city Saturday, promising a “thorough investigation and no governmental cover-up on the cause of the spill.” Indeed, the water was turned back late Sunday and early Monday to most of Harbin, easing the residents’ tensions considerably.

“It tastes good,” Zuoji said after sipping from his cup. The *New York Times* online edition reported Nov. 28.

Although most of the contaminated water of the Sanghua River has past, the government and media warn of possible dangers still lurking in their water through a televised traffic-light warning system, BBC news reported. A red symbol means the water is possibly lethal and green means it is safe enough to drink.

WARNER

FROM PAGE 1

be much lower than 42 percent due to increased expenditures.

The increased expenditures result mainly from the academic standards that the commonwealth requires the College to meet as part of the Restructuring Act.

The academic component of the restructuring plan details how the College will meet these requirements, which are called the “state ask.”

Goals include raising staff salaries, renovating buildings and increasing affordability for all Virginians.

The Gateway Program, which grants students whose parents make less than \$40,000 per year 100 percent of their financial need without acquiring debt, will cost the College an estimated \$4 million per year, according to William and Mary News.

There are also expensive goals for the next six years not included in the academic plan, such as acquiring the Sentara hospital, building a new business school and integrated science complex and raising salaries for the lowest paid workers.

“We’re going to be involved in a chase for much more support,” Nichol said.

Next year Jones said he expects the College’s base adequacy shortfall to be \$3.7 million and he expects that to rise to \$10 million by 2010.

Warner’s approval of the restructuring plan gives no indication as to how much state support Virginia will provide the College in the future, but, according to ABC News 7, in the gubernatorial debate at Virginia Commonwealth University Sept. 14, governor-elect Tim Kaine pledged to adequately fund higher education.

*Check out
The Flat Hat’s
online section.*

<http://flathat.wm.edu>

PLANS

FROM PAGE 1

additions to the current year’s options.

“We make changes to the meal plans every year, and we make those changes based on what William and Mary students tell us they want and need in the meal plan program,” DiBenedetto said. “Along with the block changes we introduced the Gold 14 as a Freshmen option this year, we introduced a Flex Dollar bonus program for early sign up, we changed the number of block meals on three of the plans, increased the Flex Dollar amounts and increased the hours of operation.”

As seen through the block plan controversy, changes are not always welcomed by the student population, and Dining Services must implement further changes, or revert back to previous plans, in order to placate the sometimes fervent discontent.

Efforts by the Student Assembly and SA President junior Ryan Scofield also contributed to the alteration of meal plans.

“The Student Assembly has lobbied them on behalf of students and used the Food Services Committee as another avenue to ask them to reconsider their plans, because students aren’t happy with the current situation,” Scofield said. “We think these meal plan adjustments will be a big shift in the direction of meeting student needs and wants, and we’re happy to see them on the front burner.”

DiBenedetto also acknowledged the vital input of student participants in the decision and transformation process, citing the food advisory board in particular.

“We would like to thank the student representatives of the Food Service Advisory Committee for all their hard work and help with this issue. They did a fantastic job representing the interests of the students, guiding and directing our discussions and helping make the final decisions on changes for the spring semester,” he said.

Though many students are satisfied with the reinstatement of meal options, some block plan users said they would rather have a choice between meal options and more flex points. “I like having more flex points,” junior Colleen Schneider said. “You’re actually saving money when you use them.”

RAPIST

FROM PAGE 1

but Stout said that it could take some time before the results are available. He said that during a recent investigation, it took six weeks to get results of DNA testing back. Stout said that the county typically has one or two violent “stranger-on-stranger” rapes per year.

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler sent out an e-mail to the College community Tuesday afternoon informing students of the incident. He said that he had spoken with the victim and that she is taking advantage of the College’s support system. He also said that, while the Williamsburg community is relatively safe, students must always remain vigilant. He urged students not to go

out alone after dark, to report suspicious activity and to secure their belongings and residences.

Sadler said that while it was sad to have reported two other sexual assaults this semester, he said no one believes that the incidents are part of some larger trend. Sadler was not available for comment on the arrest.

Associate Vice President for Public Affairs Bill Walker also said that there is no relationship among the assaults and that the frequency of reported assaults this year is not a dramatic deviation from previous years. According to Walker, this year five sexual assaults were reported on campus, four of which occurred in the spring semester. Only one of the incidents reported this semester is included in that figure because the other two occurred off campus. In 2004, four incidents were reported.

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..... STAFF EDITORIAL

Behold, the End is near ...

Though there’s usually not much reason to put stock into myths and superstitions, recent events may have persuaded us to give apocalypse predictions another look. While Death himself may not be riding in on a pale horse at the moment, such things do not seem far off. Observe:

Criminal activity has increased in recent days, reaching levels of frequency and intensity that would cause Genghis Kahn alarm. Perhaps that’s an overstatement, but in all seriousness, there’s no doubting the upswing in violence. At present, it’s not such a bad idea to follow all those warnings about locking doors and keeping weapons handy for protection.

What’s more, Asia is freaking us out. Earthquakes, Avian Flu, tsunamis, terrorism, slave trafficking? In any other time these might be isolated incidents, but the fact that they’re all occurring so often is looking less like a natural occurrence and more like a pattern. It’s not enough that we’ve had to worry about meltdowns and nuclear material falling into the hands of maniacs in this part of the world, we now have to watch out for plagues, pestilence and gigantic waves of death?

But the horrors of nature and political oppression aren’t only found in foreign lands; such things have happened right here in our backyard in recent days. Though the College largely has been spared the brunt of this most-active-tropical-storm-season-ever, when entire U.S. cities get wiped out, it’s time to worry. Whether the increase in massive hurricanes and other severe weather events is a result of climate change or not, all signs currently point to deadly, Apocalypse-style weather. If you have the opportunity to buy hurricane, tornado, flood, fire, asteroid and famine insurance, we suggest you purchase some. Relying on FEMA for support during the last days is just foolish.

Although threats by nature might be the most noticeable of the recent disasters, one must not forget the escalation in man-made destruction. With George W. Bush as president, there’s nothing guaranteeing our future oil supplies or our ban on indiscriminate and wide-spread torture and genocide. While Bush, in our opinion, doesn’t exactly fit the profile of the Antichrist, he might as well be; he’s leading us in the same direction. And don’t tell us that Dick Cheney *isn’t* the Whore of Babylon.

Some of us are preparing for the worst during the upcoming break; among the best ideas we’ve heard are underground bunkers stocked with canned goods, two-way radios and assault rifles. Facing impending thermonuclear war, a coming Ice Age, rising oceans, terrorist plots, global war, wild animal attacks, deadly pandemics, cloned armies, forced-labor camps, chemical warfare, ultraviolet radiation, vampires and zombies, we’re not taking any chances.

And yet with all of these dangers, what is it that students at the College fear the most? Finals.

Have a safe and happy holiday season everyone!

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.....

*Lying, Cheating & Stealing
Will Send You
Straight to
Hell* ♥

An old saying asks, “How can you tell when a politician is lying?” The answer: “When his lips are moving.”

Although flagrantly derisive, this adage does not seem too far off the mark for U.S. politicians. Sadly, our government has almost made lying a tradition. From Iran-Contra to Lewinskygate, scandals have plagued our most revered public figures. Some have maintained their integrity by coming clean. President Bill Clinton, for example, eventually told the truth and apologized, affirming that he had some integrity and reverence for honesty. If only everyone did the same.

When Judith Miller finally revealed Lewis “Scooter” Libby as her confidential source for outing CIA operative Valerie Plame in 2003, she set in motion a chain of events resulting in Libby’s resignation as chief of staff and his subsequent indictment for perjury. Libby had opportunities to acknowledge his culpability, but he repeatedly denied any involvement. The office of the executive has sullied its own credibility yet again by manipulating facts and hiding truths.

Outside of the governmental context, it is clear that lying — along with cheating and stealing — is widespread. These infractions of common decency are often just manifestations of human fallibility. Idealistically assuming that we can be honest at all times and in all situations defies the law of human nature; no one is perfect, and we will all make mistakes at some point. But when the inevitable happens, how you act after you lie, cheat or steal demonstrates your integrity.

Our veracity is sometimes more self-serving than we would like to admit. We are apt to permit clandestine acts of deceit, even if we have an inkling that they are occurring, because it is easy to deflect responsibility. However, permissiveness perpetuates deception, and whether you are dishonest yourself or you look the other way when someone else is dishonest, you are contributing to a bigger problem.

There is an enormous amount of both internal and external pressure placed on students at the College to

excel academically. The idea that students will never “slip” and fail to exemplify the Honor Code perfectly is a bit lofty. But do we really need an 18th century “Statement of Purpose” to tell us not to lie, cheat or steal? Shouldn’t we all just have common decency and personal integrity?

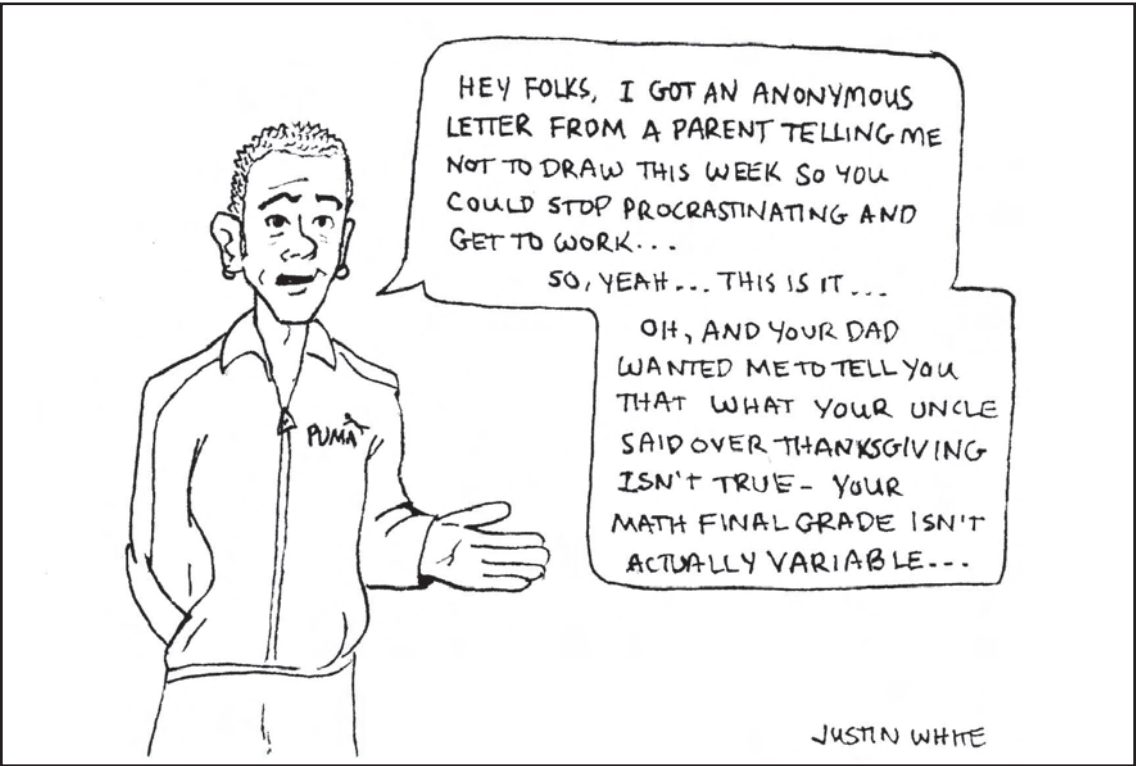
For all of the Honor Code violations that fall through the cracks — cheating in Millington 150, stealing an unlocked bike, sneaking in the back door of the University Center, underage drinking in residence halls — nothing more than the possibility of a guilty conscience dissuades someone from acting that way again. I have seen students violate the Honor Code in small ways, but I do not want to pay more for my meal plan because a fraction of the student body sneaks in the back door of the UC when they “forget” their ID cards. If I am living up to the Honor Code, everyone else should, too. After all, isn’t that how it is supposed to work?

Every lie from a large-scale, government cover-up to a micro-level infraction of the College’s Honor Code has a consequence. In addition to creating a climate of mistrust, lying can seriously affect lives. Valerie Plame cannot work for the CIA again. Libby may never wipe this scandal from his résumé. Judith Miller served 85 days in jail. Offenses on our campus may not seem as grave as those aforementioned, but essentially they differ only in the magnitudes and outcomes of the lies. We must all understand that even the smallest lies have repercussions.

Actions speak louder than words, and pretending to subscribe to a code of honor without actually living by it undermines that code. When lies do occur, admitting guilt is just as crucial to a “community of trust” as not lying in the first place. No one is perfect, but everyone is capable of admitting mistakes and apologizing for them. Because the lies of government officials repeatedly undermine our trust in the government, we must expect higher standards of conduct and honesty from our politicians. But if we ask the government and the “Scooter” Libbys of the world to be straight with us, we should do the same ourselves.

The author thanks Ben Casolaro for his contributions to this piece.

Angela Casolaro is a junior at the College. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



Registration reduced to chance

I find that registration makes us delve into our minds to try and find answers to life’s most challenging questions. Who am I? What do I want to do with my life? What will I do after college? What idiot made this registration system? I mean, honestly, what possessed the powers that be to change the system from the relatively sane, logical process using credit hours to this bizarre social class system?

Allow me to illustrate this. The previous system was a triage system. The ones most seriously hemorrhaging, in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements, were the ones who received the most help. The current system transforms the student body into sperm fighting to get into a limited number of eggs as quickly as possible. It is not a matter of fitness, but rather a matter of chance who gets into the classes first. Also, the fact that we are fighting against so many people at the same time means that we often get stuck all trying to swim up the fallopian tubes that are the school’s internet servers.

So, to reiterate the question, what the hell were they thinking? As a social freshman, I am naturally bitter about the whole system, not because I’m pretentious and think I deserve preference, but rather I am merely egotistical and want preference. In other words, I am not better than you, but dammit, I want a slot in that class, and I am not above putting aluminum foil around your room to mess up your wireless internet connection. It’s nothing personal. However, I diverge from my point. As we acquire more AP credits before we enter into college, there is less of a need for us to take the intro-level classes, but competing against the upperclassmen is excessively annoying. The lower the social class one belongs to, the higher the chance of getting sloppy seconds for classes. As such, we underclassmen with massive amounts of credit that we have gotten to compensate



Ryan Jackson

for our lack of volunteer hours, lack of extracurricular activities and/or penis size are competing against those ejaculated a day or two before us. In short, we have little to no chance of getting into those classes that the upperclassmen want.

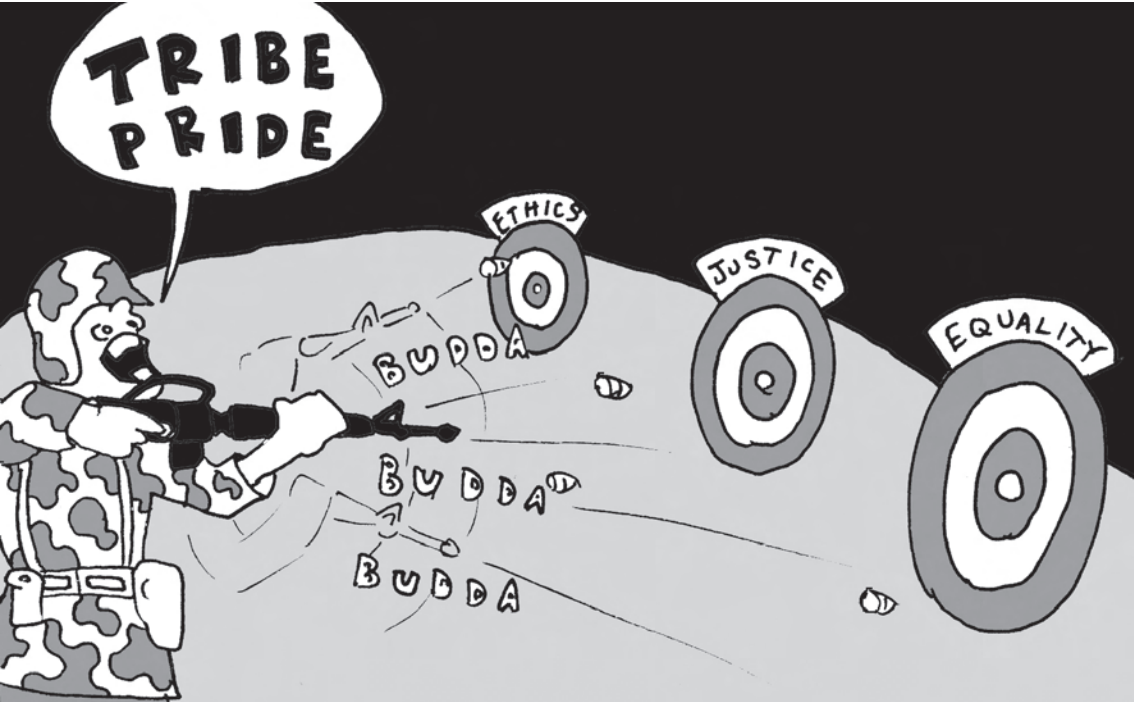
This leaves us underclassmen to wheedle our way into classes through whatever means possible. Now, I enjoy giving sexual favors as much as the next person, but I believe the ethics clause to which our professors agree prohibits this. Also, I have been informed that ritual animal sacrifices are unsuccessful and incur the ire of PETA, and, although fun, should be avoided. Indeed, as I write this, my roommate has unleashed a string of curses almost poetic in nature detailing his frustration and general anger at this situation. As he so rightly points out, “What the hell do they expect us to take?”

The situation boils down to this: the College registration system causes the entire freshman class to curl up into the fetal position and cry softly to their collective selves. This could be a matter of us being too picky, but somehow I think the fact that every single one of the seven sections of introduction to philosophy was full before frosh registration presents a subtle problem. The fact is that entrance requirements to the College are so high that many of us come in already having several GERs fulfilled, meaning that we are ready to get on with a concentration. However, since the scheduling process is as fun as a poke in the head with a fondue fork, one is unable to get on with their higher purpose in life until they gain some social standing.

I am, in a word, annoyed. I understand the appeal of classes, and I vaguely understand the twisted logic behind the registration system. I understand that since I have been at the College for only a semester, I have little to no standing. However, for the love of all that’s good and holy, could you please just give me a chance of getting into ethics?

Ryan Jackson is a freshman at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.





ROTC sullies learning experience

The value of the learning experience provided at the College can only be measured with hindsight. Our alumni’s deeds and achievements are the selling point for many a prospective student and serve as the only meaningful measure of the College’s efficacy in passing on the values of a liberal arts education. Currently, there is one obvious institutional obstacle to the fulfillment of that goal, and that is the College’s Reserve Officer Training Corps program.



Thom Silverstein

Academic credit is given for participation in a program that turns young men and women into killers for hire. Their employer, the U.S. government, is almost certain to use their talents for illegal and unethical purposes, if history and current events are any guide. The history of U.S. foreign intervention, from the Mexican War and the genocide of the American Indians to the current wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Colombia, is steeped in duplicity, racism and aggression. That a college ever so proud of its honor code and ever so keen, if entirely unsuccessful, in its pursuit of diversity should tacitly ally itself with the foreign policy of this country is a grievous shame.

Instead of continuing down this lethal path, the College should re-evaluate the ways in which it interacts with the global community. The elimination of the ROTC program would be an obvious starting point, but there is much more work to do before students here can be truly proud of the ethical standards upheld by the College’s administrators. To bring forth genuine change, the College must also sever its ties to corporations with questionable human rights records, like Aramark and Coca-Cola, and our new chancellor must resign. Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor’s reactionary decisions regarding capital punishment have strong racial implications and ought not to reflect the values of a school engaging in a push to increase ethnic diversity on campus. Divestment from corporations who do business in rogue states like Israel and Myanmar is also a must. Cleaning up the College’s global image will be a tall task, but success is possible and the elimination of the ROTC program is a critical

first step. Estimates of the number of dead Iraqi civilians range from about 20,000 to over 100,000. Iraqi prisoners of war are being held in conditions that clearly do not meet the rather meager conditions that the Geneva Conventions mandate for prisoner treatment. The Bush administration’s justifications for the war have crumbled beneath the burdensome and inconvenient weight of reality. Iraqi natural resources and utilities are being sold off to U.S. and European corporations in clear violation of Iraq’s previous constitution, and peace and stability are by no means imminent. Circumspection, rather than radical action, could be called for as a response to the anti-human nature of our government’s misdeeds if they represented any sort of a departure from the status quo for U.S. foreign policy. Unfortunately, the type of administrative attitude that made the war in Iraq possible has been the rule rather than the exception for eons and is unlikely to change soon.

If nothing is done to slow down this war machine, then the citizens of Iran, Syria, North Korea, Venezuela and Bolivia may well end up learning the same lesson that countless nations learned during the Cold War. The lesson is that Woodrow Wilson lied, and his 14 Points were a joke. World War I was not fought to make the world safe for democracy and self-determination, because true self-determination is, and always has been, anathema to the agents of empire. At this point, there is no time to debate the merits of empire. Everyone has made up their minds. The question is whether this community actually delivers on the pomp that it consistently serves up through statements like President Gene Nichol’s remark that the College has produced “foundational creeds of human liberty and egalitarian aspiration.”

Silence is not an option in the current climate because the stakes are so high. For those who view the war as an abstraction that can be ignored, it is best to remember that the effects of war can hit quite close to home. A young alumnus recently died in Iraq, and more will do the same if the College insists on soldiering on as a human factory for the Pentagon.

Thom Silverstein is a sophomore at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Disenfranchisement puzzling

When we hear about a government excluding different minority groups from voting we are usually shocked, offended and outraged. We hear about those kinds of things going on in places like the Sudan, North Korea and the Congo.



Nick Faulkner

Incredibly, I am sorry to include the students of the College in this notorious and shameful group. We students do not have the right to vote here in Williamsburg. Why shouldn’t it be lawful for students to vote in Williamsburg? At present, students are not allowed to cast a single vote in any city election. City and local officials have blocked this local right, making a number of claims as to why we can’t, have not or ever should vote. Such claims are either badly misleading, or worse, totally false.

Let’s go through them one at a time. The first argument against student voting is that we are too transient. They wonder why someone who resides in their community for such a short period of time should have any say in their affairs. However, what they fail to realize is that their affairs are our affairs. While it is true that students come and go, it is also true that students have always lived at the College and will continue to live at the College every four years. Indeed, we have a perpetual stake in this community. Technically speaking, students were here before the citizens of Williamsburg itself.

Lack of knowledge regarding local politics is another canard that the City of Williamsburg advances against us. They falsely contend that students do not know enough about local politics or government affairs to be able to make an informed vote. Besides the fact that their viewpoint is condescending and misinformed, I submit that we are actually

ideal participants in the democratic process. While our founding fathers did not impose any education requirements for voting, we, as students, are in the constant process of thinking critically and acquiring knowledge. We are voters who want to learn, are willing to study and are eager to engage in political debate.

Why can’t they see that? It is hard to believe that the local political leadership fails to recognize how much we have to offer. Something’s rotten in the state of Denmark. Something’s rotten in the City of Williamsburg.

The city registrar pretends that we do not pay taxes for their municipal services, public education, and their own paychecks (they get them every two weeks), which is why we do not deserve to vote. Contrary to what they think, we do pay taxes by purchasing food and other sales items and contribute residential taxes for the College through our tuition. The whole thing smacks on a property requirement in return for the right to vote. It reminds us of those times when white men with property could vote, but those who did not, could not. It was an inequality that was manifestly unjust then and is manifestly unjust now.

Many of us are puzzled by officials who resist enfranchising students. Of what, exactly, are they afraid? College revolutionaries marching down DoG Street, hurling chemistry textbooks at city hall? Newly-minted freshmen, who can’t get dates, running for city council, or even mayor? Or at worst, our own student body seizing power and excluding local citizens from their right to vote. While no serious-minded observer would ever conceive of those unlikely scenarios, the hard substratum of truth remains. A citizen is denying his fellow citizen the right to vote. That is dead wrong and it must change.

Nick Faulkner is the sophomore class president. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



City council unanimously ambiguous

The Williamsburg City Council unanimously passed its 2006 Legislative Priorities, to be communicated to the General Assembly, at its Nov. 10 meeting. Among these priorities was a



David Sievers

late addition (not publicized in the draft available on the city website) requesting clarification of the domiciliary requirements for voter registration (essentially, an answer to the question of student voting rights). As a student, I find the Council’s actions to be feeble at best, underhanded and unjust at worst.

Clarification of student voting rights is the only one of the city’s legislative priorities

upon which the Council did not take a stance or recommend a course of action. The language of this section of the priorities calls for “clarity.” Analogous treatment of another priority would have been to request that the General Assembly “seek consensus on tourism funding,” rather than “strongly urging” increased funding, as the Council did. Such ineffectual language would be downright silly and even negligent for other priorities, so one is left to wonder why the Council was not more explicit in their intentions with the voting question.

The Council’s common response to their failure to champion voting rights is that they are not legal scholars and simply want the law to be universally and fairly applied. However, because the city asked legislators to pass certain laws, the question is not how to interpret the law, but what the law is. The Council has not made public whether they think that such laws should allow students to vote in their college hometowns.

The other possible argument from the Council is that they have no opinion on the issue but want it resolved because it poses a problem to local affairs. This claim is laughable. First, it is the job of city Council members to have an opinion on the issue, as the engagement of half of Williamsburg’s population has an impact on the city’s governance. Further, in my experience with lobbying, one makes a specific action request of the representative rather than simply proposing a problem and asking for “clarity.” Certainly when members of council go to lobby

Bill Barlow and Tommy Norment, as was alluded to in the Council’s meeting, they will not pose the problem without voicing a favored solution. Again, my question is what this request would be and why the Council has not publicly disclosed it in the legislative priority resolution.

While claiming ambivalence on the issue of student voting rights, the bedfellows kept by the City Council shed light upon their likely motives. According to comments made at the City Council meeting, the voting rights section of the priorities list was OK’d by Dave Andrews, Williamsburg voter registrar and state employee. This language included the assertion that the registrar has interpreted the law “consistently,” the claim upon which he won his legal defense against students who sued for his actions in disenfranchising them. This alleged consistency is a farce, as off-campus students who would have been denied two years ago were able to vote in this fall’s gubernatorial election. I know because I was one of them. There’s consistency for you.

By comparison, it is instructive to look at the voices not heeded by the City Council. President Gene Nichol has made it very clear that he supports the rights of students to vote in Williamsburg and has promised to resolve the issue by the next congressional election. The Student Assembly Senate has also come around of late to champion the student cause, unanimously passing a bill in November strongly arguing for our voting rights. I did not hear mention of either of these bodies being given prior review of the city’s legislation before deeming it acceptable.

Still, the duty of the student body to represent its own interests cannot be minimized. One wonders where Jhett Nelson, head of the SA department of public affairs, was during the City Council work session and meetings in which these priorities passed without mention of the points herein detailed.

It is unfortunate that the Council has not made a reinstatement of the rights of students to vote in Williamsburg a priority. If it opposes this noble goal, then it should say so, rather than underhandedly seeking “clarity.”

David Sievers is a junior at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.



The Flat Hat
Opinions Team
wishes you a happy
holiday break.

We'll be back Jan. 20.

— Letter to the Editor —

‘Tribe’ moniker reflects admiration, not condescension
To the Editor:

I have a comment about Sean Barker’s column, “Tribe Perpetuates Social Divisions.”

When you name a group after something, it is because it has attributes you admire. I don’t think that the American Indians need a condescending benefactor. Most people receive compliments graciously.

As for the argument that the College is not exactly like a tribe, we don’t need to be. If the columnist is serious about the authenticity fixation, may I suggest a more fruitful endeavor? Go after the sports teams with names such as lions, tigers and bears, oh my! He could join forces with the animal rights group, which will lend a humanitarian aura to cover the nit-picking.

By the way, if you include the San Diego Chargers, even the Energizer bunny can be involved in this worthy crusade.

— Theresa Long, ’00



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She has a trifecta of talents that would make an Iron Man competitor quiver with envy. Find out how she does it. See THAT GIRL, page 9.

UCAB boasts landmark year for concerts



LAUREN BRYANT • THE FLAT HAT
As assistant director for UCAB, Joe Lowder is partly responsible for the tangible changes in the organization.

BY ELIZABETH COLE
THE FLAT HAT

This semester, the University Centers Activities Board achieved an unprecedented level of attendance. Weekends — and even weeknights — were filled with concerts, comedians, movies, music and countless other events. Students flocked to the Lake Matoaka Amphitheater, Lodge 1, Tidewater and just about any campus location UCAB temporarily transformed into an entertainment venue.

Kim Roeder, who is now a director of student activities at Christopher Newport University, created UCAB in 1994. Roeder was succeeded by many other directors; Joe Lowder is the current assistant director of student activities programing at the College. He oversees UCAB in is his second year in this position.

UCAB staff members credit Lowder’s innovation at the College to his previous experience at two universities in Mississippi. According to Sam Rogers, ’06, the student director of music for UCAB, Lowder’s familiarity with activities programming at larger schools affords him a broader perspective. He brings a fresh perspective to the job and is unafraid to transfer the extent of a large university’s programming to a smaller school.

Since its conception UCAB has bloomed from a grassroots student effort to a team of approximately 100 students. UCAB is divided into committees for specific events, a few being music, comedy, films, special events and cultural programs. The director of each committee also sits on the executive board, which guides the overall planning process.

“The (executive) board has not been afraid to try things,” senior Trina Chakraborty, the student director of public relations said.

Chakraborty and Rogers both agree that the cohesion of board members contributes to their success. Communication and cooperation within the executive board are qualities that Rogers believes are akin to a smaller family within UCAB.

Part of the success of the executive board, they said, is that it is constantly looking for ways to improve upon its efforts. After every event, the appropriate committee director completes an evaluation, and UCAB posts student evaluation forms online at www.wm.edu/ucab. Student feedback is always appreciated, and members are aiming to be even more accessible through office hours at the Daily Grind.

UCAB has been exceptionally busy this year, averaging three or four events per week for the first semester. So how can UCAB afford to host such frequent fun? According to Lowder, the administration is supportive and has appropriated a small but steady increase in their budget. The Student Assembly, which ultimately votes on distribution of funding for campus organizations, shows its support for UCAB as well. This year it granted UCAB \$13,000 more than in the previous year, most of which was spent on the Homecoming concert featuring the Nappy Roots and Brazilian Girls.

Lowder and UCAB members agree that the high volume of attendance at events evidences popularity and can promote more funding in the future. About 2,600 people attended the Homecoming concert, 2,000 watched the Screen on the Green in September and Homebrew has attracted 1,125 guests total so far. Overall numbers have increased as well. For the fall semester of 2004, UCAB hosted a total of 49 events drawing a total of 15,611 attendees. This semester they’ve hosted 53 events with a total of 17,576 attendees.

“People are definitely noticing the effort. People [in the administration] are willing to invest in UCAB.”

— SENIOR TRINA CHAKRABORTY,
STUDENT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Lowder cites an increase in late-night UCAB events as the cause of the greater attendance. Late-night sponsored events were emphasized this semester and have been welcomed by the many students who attend them.

“People are definitely noticing the effort. People [in the administration] are willing to invest in UCAB,” Chakraborty said.

Every year UCAB attends a conference, for the National Association of Campus Activities. This past summer the College swept the competition, claiming top honors and three other awards. They bested over 1,000 other schools to win the outstanding delegation award, the south board of excellence award, an award for the student activities calendar and an award for student artwork in advertising for a Nappy Roots poster. National recognition has contributed to UCAB’s enthusiasm to continue their efforts this year and for the upcoming semester.

UCAB begins planning events at least one semester in advance, and members said they are excited to be hosting Pedro from Napoleon Dynamite, Paul Rusesabagina (whom Don Cheadle played in “Hotel Rwanda”), more comedians and music and another Screen on the Green event next semester. Lowder says to be on the lookout for a major concert, comparable to the Homecoming concert, coming in January.



COURTESY PHOTO • WWW.CRASHEVEREST.COM
Guitarist from Crash Everest, one of the many bands brought to the College by UCAB.

Class of 2008 SA reps announce party, website

BY ALLISON ANOLL
THE FLAT HAT

The Student Assembly members of the Class of 2008 have been hard at work. Beginning tonight at 10 p.m. the University Center Tidewater rooms are Club 208 — a dance party running until 1:30 a.m. Astro’s Disk Jockeys from the Virginia Beach area will provide music for the event that will span a series of genres.

“They’ll be playing just about anything you would hear in a club,” Bryan Jones, the vice president of social affairs for the Class of 2008, said.

Jones, who spent a considerable amount of time planning this event, sent a long list of song suggestions to the DJ.

The music will range from “Madonna to Buster Rhymes,” Jones said. “Everything

from techno to pop to scratch it up and mix it all together.”

Attempting to top last year’s highly attended White and Black Semi-Formal dance, the heads of the Class of 2008 have decided to go down a slightly different road. The decorations will take on an urban style, with everything from brick designs with graffiti to city landscapes and decorative building ledges. Also included will be two dance stages with lights that blink in time with the music.

“I like to transform the room so it doesn’t look like Tidewater anymore,” Jones, who plans to start setting up for the dance around 1:00 p.m. today, said. With the help of the University Staff Crew, and the ’08 Council (a continuation of 2008’s First Year Advisory Council), Jones plans to have enough manpower to put together the complicated scenery.

Chick-fil-A and Ukrops, who will serve sparkling cider throughout the night, will cater the party. Door prizes similar to those at the semi-formal, including a television and a home entertainment system, will be awarded over the course of the event.

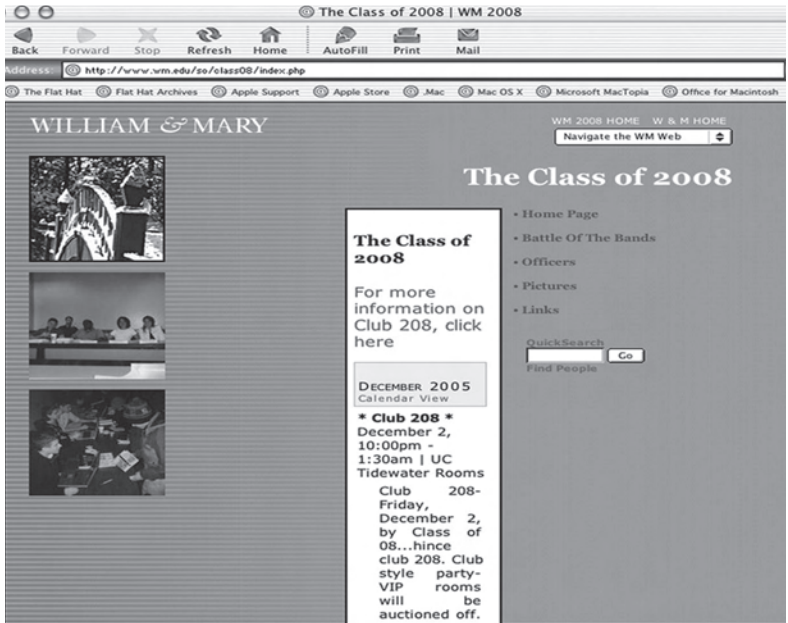
One door prize is VIP treatment for the night, including access to a roped off area in the room guarded by bouncer equivalents and continuously served with food and drinks.

“It’s going to be more glamorous,” Jones said, comparing Club 208 to last spring’s semi-formal. “It should be a great event, as long as people come out to it.”

Tonight’s dance will be much smaller than the semi-formal, however.

“Last year we sold 365 of the 400 tickets available,” Jones said. This year, only 275 are

See PARTY + page 8



COURTESY GRAPHIC • WILLIAM AND MARY STUDENT ASSEMBLY WEBSITE

Indiscriminate commercialization of bookstore misses point

CONFUSION CORNER



Lauren Bell

I used to like going to the College Bookstore (better known as the smallest Barnes and Noble ever) to study, hang out, maybe actually buy books. It had a soothing atmosphere with flattering natural light, plenty of goofy tourists and about 62 great distractions if I was supposed to be working on a paper. There was also, of course, the Starbucks. As one of only three in the general campus area, it’s somewhat of a rarity as far as Starbucks goes, and goodness knows I need a \$3 coffee in order to write any successful papers.

Yes, I used to like going to the College Bookstore, until it decided to become a bustling center of commerce. When I try to go to the bookstore now, I can hardly make it to a table. I have to wade through the aisles of random “goods” that quiver precariously on overstuffed shelves. With just one wrong tap from my own overstuffed schoolbag, I

could find myself chest-deep in a flotsam of ceramic inspirational mugs, critter belts and German-made wind-up toys. My only rescue would be a life line assembled from feather boas, bath towels and the occasional imitation Vera Bradley bag. The bookstore is now consumer heaven, if the consumer happens to be a hyperactive 13-year-old girl.

Call me old-fashioned, but wouldn’t it be better for the bookstore to sell books? The selection of actual literature at this so-called College Bookstore is egregious. That’s right, I said “egregious” because, in spite of the bookstore’s best efforts to deny me any literary fodder, I have managed to keep a pretty good handle on the English language. Not everyone is as nerdy as I am though, so shouldn’t the College Bookstore, the bookstore of the institution we are paying for our education, help us out a little in our undying quest for knowledge?

I know they sell us textbooks, and I really appreciate their kind efforts to get every student a brand new copy of any \$110 textbook that they may need. However, my education requires a little bit more. How about stocking at least one copy of Dan Savage’s Skipping Towards Gomorrah? My friend has a copy of this journalistic gem about “the seven deadly sins and the pursuit of happiness in America.” He has it because he is a well-read individual who obviously shops at far superior bookstores. He is also very finicky about lending out his books, which is understandable, but it leaves me in a tight spot.

I made several excursions to the bookstore in search of this treasure trove of wisdom by my favorite sex columnist, all to no avail. In fact, the College Bookstore doesn’t have any books by Dan Savage, not that they are very well-stocked on books by sex columnists in

general. I cringe at the thought of ordering Skipping to Gomorrah online. Can you imagine what kind of pop-ups and spam I would get if I ordered a book with the word “Gomorrah” in the title, not to mention one authored by self-billed “America’s leading gay sex columnist?” Probably nothing pretty because the internet is evil, which is why I turn to books for entertainment in the first place. Are you noticing the vicious cycle here?

If we could only clear out one of the makeup counters on the top floor, or maybe that shelf of bowls and mugs with insipid, day-brightening little sayings on them like, “You can do it! You’re a star!” I do not need my Cheerios telling me I’m a star early in the morning. If my Cheerios want to make my coffee and carry my bag to class, that’s fine,

See COMMERCIALIZATION + page 8

Variety
Calendar

Highlights of the week

— compiled by jeff dooley

Grand Illumination

♦ Looking to light up your weekend? Then be sure to come stop by Colonial Williamsburg, Dec. 4 and check out the Grand Illumination. This annual fireworks event is a must-see for newcomers and veterans alike. The fireworks begin at 6:15 p.m., so don't be late.

To have an event printed in the Variety Calendar, call x3281 before 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Area concerts

♦ For those of you searching for a quick getaway from your intense and hectic finals schedules, there are a number of shows within driving distance that could provide the perfect break. Damian “Jr. Gong” Marley plays with X Clan at the Sonar nightclub in Baltimore, MD, Dec. 5. If Baltimore is too far of a drive, Marley also plays at the NorVa Dec. 6 with X Clan and Brother J. The Bravery and Depeche Mode play the Patriot Center in Fairfax, VA on Dec. 9. Violent Femmes play the NorVa on Dec. 9. Jason Mraz plays with Better than Ezra at the NorVa Dec. 10. Emo rockers Senses Fail and Saves the Day play with The Early November and Emanuel at the NorVa Dec. 14. Old Dominion University hosts the Zone 106.1 Winter Meltdown featuring Fall Out Boy, Lifehouse, Gavin DeGraw and the cast of MTV's Laguna Beach, among others. Look out for Kristin!



Hulabaloo

By Nate Loerhke



Knowing Jack

By Mika G. Shannon



Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner

COMMERCIALIZATION

FROM PAGE 7

but I am tired of their empty support. I am tired of their empty support, and I am tired of not being able to find books at the bookstore. What should be a bastion of intellectualism is slowly morphing into

the overpriced Wal-Mart of Colonial Williamsburg. A Wal-Mart with a Starbucks – who knew Colonial Williamsburg was so much a part of the 21st Century?

Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She wouldn't mind some hot "Savage Love" with her favorite sex columnist, you know, if he weren't gay.

Variety Love.

Next issue: Jan. 20.

Next writers' meeting: Jan 15.

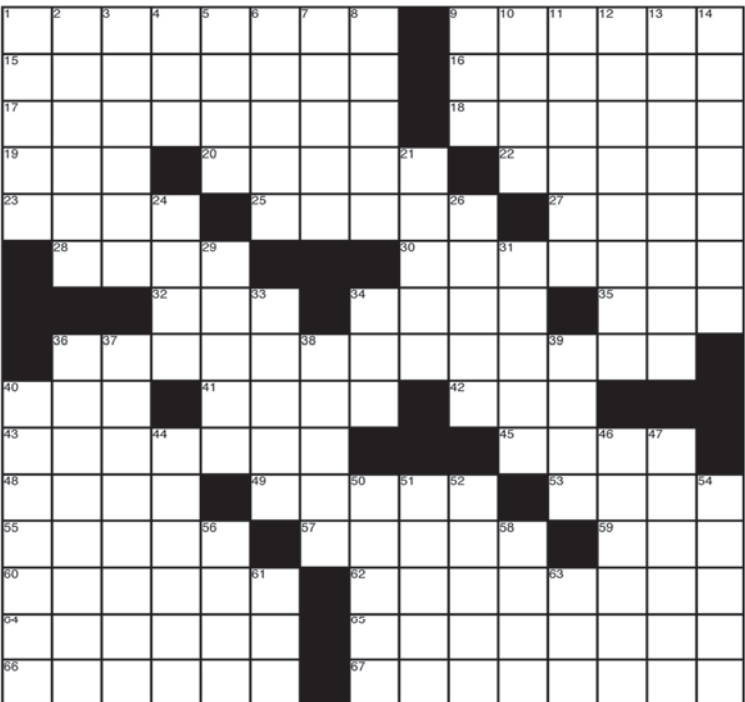
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1. 1960's TV western star
- 9. Chemical extracts
- 15. Fugitive pursuer
- 16. Noted love poem of 1831
- 17. Gentle air
- 18. Major bore
- 19. Self-deprecating utterance
- 20. Rocks
- 22. Kind of pitch
- 23. Many a moon
- 25. "Hawaii Five-O" extra
- 27. "The Art of Beauty" author Montez
- 28. 4,000-year-old Chinese dynasty
- 30. Nut case?
- 32. Defense advisory grp.
- 34. Talks
- 35. Lansing-to-Flint dir.
- 36. Two-faced person?
- 40. Lever Bros. brand
- 41. Half of a griffin
- 42. Passing word?
- 43. Nonhuman part of a cyborg
- 45. MCMLVII and others
- 48. "...baked in ____"
- 49. 1955 Physics Nobel
- 53. Insolence
- 55. Funk of Funk & Wagnalls
- 57. Bar
- 59. Workers' grp. founded 1886
- 60. Poor
- 62. Condition sometimes treated by hypnosis
- 64. ____ Collins, first woman to command a space shuttle
- 65. Hectic existences
- 66. Skeleton parts
- 67. Reflex

DOWN

- 1. 1963 Jan and Dean hit
- 2. "Stop it!"
- 3. Delineates
- 4. Whirlpool feature
- 5. Muck
- 6. Big name in book clubs
- 7. Early Reagan associate

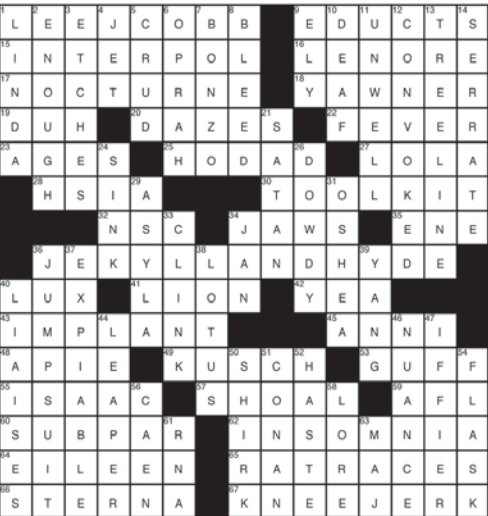


- 8. Run
- 9. England's Isle of ____
- 10. Ones who sign, with "the"
- 11. Indisposed
- 12. Called
- 13. Where the top begins to get bare
- 14. Notched
- 21. One leading to temptation?
- 24. Descend
- 26. Old-fashioned
- 29. Retreats
- 31. Comic actress Tessie
- 33. Sound from a toaster?
- 34. Calendar abbr.
- 36. Casual garment
- 37. Subject to recompense, as a crime
- 38. ____-eater
- 39. Positive principle
- 40. Makes connections
- 44. One making rebounds
- 46. Subtlety
- 47. Less settled
- 50. Goldbrick

- 51. Literary middle name
- 52. Oversight cause, maybe
- 54. Rounded vessel
- 56. City retaken by the Allies, July 9, 1944
- 58. Tales and such
- 61. Some strands
- 63. Kind of scale: Abbr.

Source: The New York Times

Last week's solution



Horoscopes



Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
Hey Sagittarius, smell yourself. Your fragrance is delightful. Your soap and shampoo combination clearly make a great team.



Gemini: May 21 - June 21
If you haven't already invested in Christmas trees, do so immediately. That stock is on the rise. You heard it here first.



Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
Worried that your love interest doesn't respect your chosen major? Why not drop out and pursue stand-up comedy? It's worth a shot.



Cancer: June 22 - July 22
Hold off on the Christmas music for another week or so. Don't let the retailers control your holiday spirit. Get back to your non-conformist roots, Cancer.



Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
Be careful when trying to pass people carrying golf umbrellas while walking on a path. One little bump and you could be sent rolling into a creek.



Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22
Nothing says "love" like a giant banana costume. So go out and buy one, then when your love interest walks by, Bam! You're in a banana costume.



Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20
Your love life is about to take a huge turn for the better. The reason? A little thing known as mistletoe, my friend. What a concept.



Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
Show your significant other how much you really care this holiday season by giving him/her a copy of the William Shatner solo album.



Aries: March 21 - April 19
Want to brown-nose your professor, but afraid that an apple is too cliché? Try giving him/her some mango chunks from the Caf. Talk about exotic.



Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
Afraid that no one in your living establishment takes you seriously? Walk around carrying a large coffee mug with orange soda in it. That'll show 'em.



Taurus: April 20 - May 20
Sadly, your plan to woo your love interest by referring to yourself in the third person has backfired miserably. I should have seen that coming. My mistake.



Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
An oversized cowboy would be a silly, impractical gift to get for somebody you care about. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't do it.

..... compiled by jeff dooley

PARTY

FROM PAGE 7

being offered.

Tickets have been on sale since Monday at the Campus Center and will be on sale there today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and outside of the Tidewater Room starting at 9 p.m. For members of the Class of 2008

members, tickets cost only \$3; for everyone else, it's \$5. More information about the event can be found on the Student Assembly Class of 2008's new webpage, www.wm.edu/so/class08, a site complete with photos of past events and a registration login system.

"Club 208 is taking place on the last day of classes," Jones said. "Nothing else but the pancake house is happening that weekend. It will be an end of semester celebration for everybody."



That Girl: Rosalynn Kooker

By TEGAN NEUSTATTER
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Watch out: this triple threat will sing, dance and act you right off stage. Rosalynn Kooker, an L.A. native, seems to have caught a touch of Hollywood fever. But she isn't some aspiring starlet who just wants to see her name in lights. She's got a head on her shoulders, and a very good one at that.

How was your Thanksgiving break?

It was great. I got to go home [to Los Angeles], and we had Thanksgiving with my grandma and my aunt. It was weird, though, because it was like "OK, see you in two weeks."

You just finished your fifth main-stage production, the musical Pal Joey. You played Gladys, a scheming old dancer. Could you describe your role more fully?

Gladys is a supporting character, a singer at the night club who is in charge of the showgirls. She's not a nice person; she likes to think that she runs the club. At the end [of the play] she and her male friend blackmail Joey.

The most challenging thing about [playing this role] was having the confidence to do it — getting over myself and being loud and obnoxious.

What other productions have you done? Which was your favorite?

Last semester I was in "The Mad Woman of Chaillot." Previously I did "Bat Boy," "Marat/Sade" and "Carnival." "The Mad Woman of Chaillot" was wonderful because we had a really wonderful cast that loved each other. It was a really supportive environment to go to every day. "Bat Boy" was a lot of fun to do. I love the music, and you got to go and be goofy and weird.

So what made you choose to join women's chorus over the multitude of a capella groups?

I actually did audition for some a cappella groups last year, but I couldn't go to any of the callbacks because I had rehearsal for "Bat Boy." I chose women's chorus because I thought it was a good thing to do. This was before classes started, and I think all the a cappella auditions happened after [classes started]. Women's chorus was just the first thing that came along, but I'm so glad I did it because it's such a great group of women.

As a member of the Nu Kappa Epsilon music sorority, what kinds of activities does NKE participate in?

Part of what NKE participates in is Symphonicon, the student-run light opera company that happens over winter break. We're one of the four groups that puts it on. We also have Side B, which is a concert in November that already happened. We raise money for music scholarships because some people just can't afford to take the music lessons that they want.

Part three of the triple threat: dancing. You take modern dance. What do you like about this style of dancing?

I love to dance, and modern dance is great because it incorporates everything. You have to have a strong ballet background in order to do it, but I love that it's more about you than the moves. If you feel it, then you can just sort of do it and make it big and make big mistakes, and they'll still say, "Oh, that's good!"

So with the makings of a Broadway star, you would think that after college you'd hit up Broadway in New York City. Surprisingly, you plan on going to culinary school. When did you start cooking?

I've been baking for as long as I can remember. I guess I started cooking for my family around my junior year of high school. I figured it would be helpful, and I liked cooking. Plus I'm addicted to the Food Network.

If you could be any culinary dish, what would you be?

Pasta with lots of vegetables. Sort of wholesome, basic, not too complicated.

And what would happen after culinary school? Any plans or aspirations?

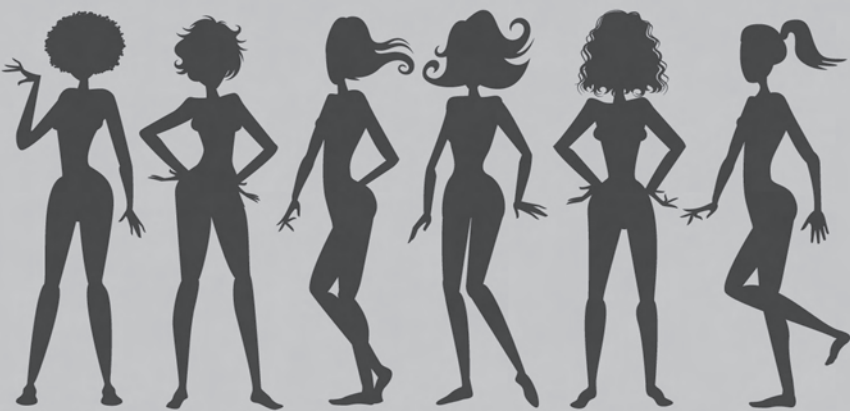
The goal is to teach people healthy cooking. That's how I'd like to incorporate my major with culinary school. I don't know if that'll happen. It'd be nice to start my own business and send people out to people's houses to [teach them healthy cooking], maybe teach classes and cater. I feel like a lot of people get frustrated with healthy eating; they just don't know what to do with a vegetable. My job would be to teach them to cut it up and do something with it and [make] it taste good.

Build your resume with something real: first-hand communication experience in your field.

Write for The Flat Hat.

Weekly writers meetings are Sunday at 5 p.m. in the Campus Center basement.

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BRIEFS

CLASSIFIEDS

HEALTH

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Tonight from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. in the University Center Center Court, InterVarsity and University Centers Activities Board are sponsoring a pancake breakfast. There will be free pancakes and orange juice, as well as live music and prizes.

Swem Library student jobs

The Earl Gregg Swem Library has vacancies for several student assistants, both for now and for the spring semester. These jobs include temporary "Extreme Shelves" for the first two weeks in January, earning \$8.50 per hour, plus regular semester-long jobs to help with circulation, off-site and other library responsibilities. For more information and application forms, visit <http://swem.wm.edu/jobs>.

Special interest housing

Special interest housing is available for community scholars, language houses and Reves Hall. Applications are available online at <http://www.wm.edu/reslife/forms/specInt/Special%20Interest%20Housing%20Application.pdf> and must be submitted by Jan. 23, 2006 to the special housing coordinators: Community Scholars Coordinator Monica Griffin, mdgrif@wm.edu; Language Houses Coordinator Martha Howard, mhowa@wm.edu and Reves Hall Coordinator Cecilia Newton, clnewt@wm.edu. In order for your application to be considered, you must meet the Feb. 17 deadline for paying the \$200 room deposit. For more

information, e-mail one of the special housing coordinators, or go to <http://www.wm.edu/reslife/residenceHalls/specInt.php>.

Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols

The annual Festival of Lessons and Carols, sponsored by the Christian campus ministers at the College, will be held Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at Williamsburg United Methodist Church, 500 Jamestown Road. The College community and the public are invited. Special music will be performed by the William and Mary Women's Chorus, Brass Ensemble, Early Music Ensemble, the Williamsburg Ringers of Williamsburg United Methodist Church and the Westminster Ringers of Williamsburg Presbyterian Church. Feat of Grace, a sacred dance troupe, will offer a liturgical dance. Students, faculty and staff will join campus ministers in reading biblical passages appropriate to the season with carols and hymns sung by the congregation interspersed among the readings.

Lake Matoaka boathouse

The Boathouse at Lake Matoaka is now closed for the semester. It should re-open soon after spring break next semester.

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Constant Gardener (R)
Fri., Dec. 2-Mon., Dec. 5
6:45 and 9:15 p.m.
Dec. 5 screening room
(35 seats)

Coming Attraction

Grizzly Man (R)
Thurs., Dec. 8-Wed., Dec. 14
6:45 and 8:45 p.m.
Dec. 8-10, 12-14
screening room (35 seats)

Live Performances

The Williamsburg Symphonia
Holiday Concert
Sat., Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. .,
Dec. 4 at 1:30 and 3 p.m.
All seats \$18

Dean Shostak presents
Crystal Christmas With Benjamin Franklin
Mon., Dec. 5 and Fri., Dec. 23 at 7 and 9 p.m.
All seats \$10

The Kimball Theatre presents
The American Boychoir
Tues., Dec. 6 and Wed., Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
General admission \$30,
Seniors/Students \$27

Robert Hodge in Concert
Pianist, vocalist, raconteur
Fri., Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m.
All seats \$20

The Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble
Sat., Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m.
General admission \$10,
Seniors/Students \$7

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Julie Cooper-Nichol is not going to be happy. See Gossip, page 12.

FOURTH HARRY POTTER FILM'S 'FIRE' FAILS TO IGNITE

By TRISTAN LEJEUNE
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Question: What do “War of the Worlds” and “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” have in common?

Answer: The “King Kong” trailer is the best part.

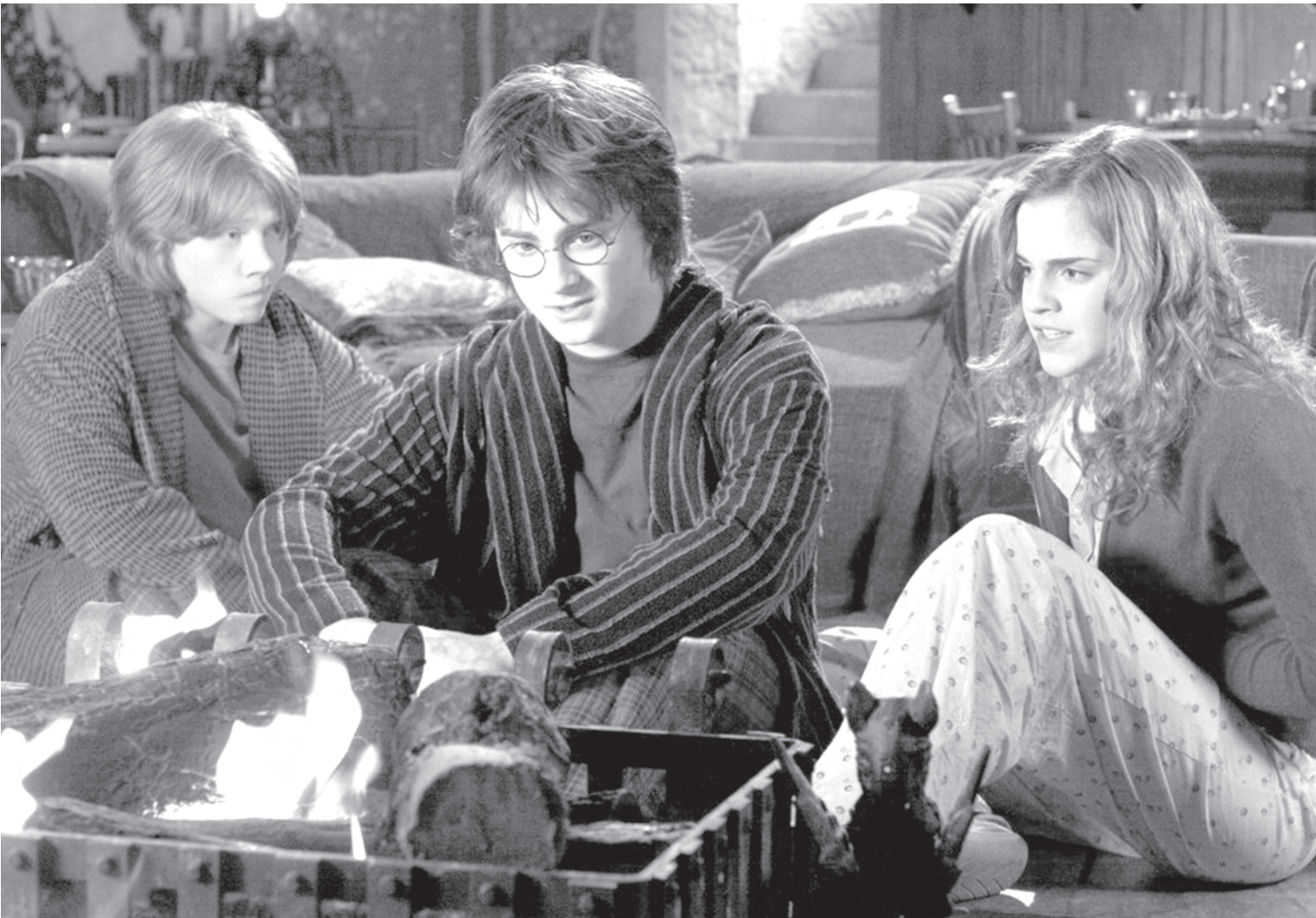
Now, now — don’t fly off your Firebolts; I rather had my heart set on a hate mail-free winter break. This is not to say that “Goblet of Fire” (or “War” for that matter) is a particularly poor film, merely that it is obvious that superior entertainment abounds. True, in full disclosure I must admit I don’t quite find Ms. Rowling the Dahlian mastermind that the loud majority of the English-speaking world believes her to be. Her novels do, however, have a habit of flying through my hands. And this is the fourth adaptation of same that left me underwhelmed. 10 points to Slytherin, I guess.

At least director Chris Columbus’s entries, the first two in the series, took the time to stop and gape at the supernatural world (if literal-minded production design) seen by the audience and the lightning-scarred protagonist. This time there’s just a horrible little bit culminating in Daniel Radcliffe gushing “I love magic,” distributing as much joy as a Dementor on Valium. “The Goblet of Fire,” troubled with being the first of the “longer” Hogwarts annuals, manages to feel both rushed and empty. Plot events don’t occur so much as stumble over each other, with hardly any beforehand discussion or following wrap-up; the students notably take in one lesson the entire year. Now how the hell are they supposed to pass their O.W.L.s?

And what stumbling plot is that? Oh, like you don’t already know. The Triwizard Tournament comes to Hogwarts, and somebody (read: somebody obvious) enters Harry without his knowledge, presumably to put him in danger. One has to admire a school that staunchly refuses to lower its quality of education in an attempt to abate the three or four horrible deaths a year. Hey, wait a minute ...

Speaking of which, we’ve finally entered what “Scream” would call “a PG-13 relationship” with Potter and Co. and, as with “Episode III,”

See ‘FIRE’ + page 12



COURTESY PHOTO • MIRAMAX
LEFT TO RIGHT: Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe and Emma Watson star as Ron, Harry and Hermione (respectively) in the fourth “Harry Potter” installment. Mike Newell, director of “Four Weddings and A Funeral,” follows Chris Columbus and Alfonso Cuarón with his take on the series.

Dull ‘Derailed’ jumps tracks

By TRISTAN LEJEUNE
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Is incompetence a sin? “Derailed” would certainly have you believe so. For 110 boring minutes it pounds on corporate everyman Charles Schine (Clive Owen) for being a weak, emasculated simp. Charles is a fool who doesn’t know how to “handle himself,” i.e. assert his own masculine drive upon his malevolent surroundings, i.e. kick some ass. By the same token then those behind “Derailed” are to be taken to task for their own blunderings; although really — is it their fault they suck? Swede Mikael Hafstrom, working on his first English-language film (always a good sign), directs like Hitchcock with no thumbs, and screenwriter Stuart Beattie now has the dubious distinction of adapting a better screenplay from a ride (“Pirates of the Caribbean”) than from a novel. To say that Owen and co-star Jennifer Aniston phone it in would be an insult to phones. The opening credits are visibly proud of announcing the impending joy of performances from RZA and Xzibit. It’s delightful, it’s delicious — it’s “Derailed”!

On a Chicago L train traveling from “Brief Encounter” to Noirsville, Charles falls for a pair of legs right after the “Coupling” stop. Lo and behold, it’s Aniston atop those gams, and the two strike up a conversation. I guess you could say Owen and Aniston have chemistry — the same kind of cold, inert chemistry you’re likely to find going on inside a deep-dish pizza left out in the rain. Anyway, they must see something I don’t because the flirting escalates over a few more meetings until, with many a sideways stare and murmured “what are we doing?” they find themselves in bed in the single most laughably fake hotel set I have ever seen (if Seymour Glass was working with Sam Spade, this is where he’d stay). It should be mentioned that both characters have left apparently loving spouses and daughters at home for the affair. It

should also be mentioned that not once does one ask the other, or anyone else for that matter, if they caught that Bulls game last night.

Speaking of last night, I stumbled on the last 20 minutes of “Collateral,” and was reminded of what solid, athletic filmmaking it is, in no small part because of Beattie’s well-oxygenated script. There should then be cause for celebration when, before our adulterous yuppies can consummate their lust, a gun-toting (French) thug named Laroche (that’s French for “the Rock”) appears to rob, assault and eventually blackmail the hell out of them. This time out, however, Beattie is not up to the task and the story gets less inspired every time a handgun enters the frame. I will say this for Vincent Cassel’s turn as Laroche: raping Jennifer Aniston is a very tough sell. And not only does Cassel do it, he’s less Eurotrashy at it than he was in “Ocean’s 12.”

There are the requisite twists of both the unoriginal and unbelievable variety (don’t worry, I shan’t “ruin” any). There’s Melissa George pulling her weight as Owen’s woman in waiting; George is a talented actress who can’t seem to tame her eyebrows or get cast in a marriage that doesn’t involve attempted murder. There’s a dangerously ill child, an emotional risk device I for one have had quite enough of; “Signs” and “Panic Room” were one thing, but these days a sick kid is the new low cell phone battery. There’s apparently someone who believes Illinois’ autumn colors come out in December. Mostly though, there are just Owen and Aniston, a pair of marquee-climbers trapped in a loveless film.

Clive’s oaken voice jumps instinctively to boudoir tones and Jennifer is lovely in lavender, but there is no life behind their eyes. Be it a movie or a stranger on a train, you can’t fall in love with someone who doesn’t have a personality. I wish Hafstrom’s Chicago was a windy city, brisk and bracing, instead of the soggy, fetid

See ‘DERAILED’ + page 12



COURTESY PHOTO • MIRAMAX
Jennifer Aniston and Clive Owen star in Swedish director Mikael Hafstrom’s thrill-less thriller “Derailed.”

Bang-up ‘Buffy’ box set sends stake through heart of undying fan

TALES OF OBSESSION



Kyle Meikle

Fanaticism, I think, is a lot like a better version of herpes. A sometimes brief, sometimes extended but always torrid affair with someone (Stanley Kubrick, Fiona Apple) or something (Harry Potter) you love leaves you dazed and confused and infected for life long after the said someone or something is gone. Kubrick’s death leaves you wondering how much better “A.I.” would have been had he directed it; Apple takes a slow six years constructing her extraordinary “Machine;” J.K. Rowling is writing the seventh and final “Harry Potter” installment as we speak.

Lucky for us, as the years go by and the meds kick in, the flare-ups become fewer and farther between. Sure, they range from the mild (a guest spot on a shitty sitcom, a lackluster live album) to the moderate (a decent spin-off, a reunion tour) to the entirely severe (an awesome adaptation, a definitive box set), but they never quite approach those first dizzy days of infectious fandom. I had one such flare-up over Thanks-

giving. The morning before I left for break, I picked up a weighty and not-so-mysterious box from the mail center. This, it seemed, was the moment I’d been waiting for. This was the expectedly belated, just-shipped birthday present from my parents I’d been waiting for. This was the “Buffy, the Vampire Slayer Chosen Collection” I’d been waiting for. Seven seasons, 40 discs and 144 episodes all in one glorious, shining box (Mr. Pointy replica sadly excluded).

Unfortunately, I had to explain the contents of my mystery box to nearly everyone I ran into that day. What did I get in response? Laughter. Jeers. Sarcasm. It seems the name of “Buffy” still warrants a requisite grin or two from those who are uninformed of its brilliance. Seriously? Go to hell. I mean, Buffy’s already been there, like, twice.

To say that “Buffy” is my favorite TV show ever would be a tragic understatement. For someone who subsided on “Seinfeld” and “Simpsons” reruns through most of

high school, Joss Whedon’s dark and daring dramedy was one of few programs that ever held my attention for a full 50 minutes. I initially scoffed at the series when my older sis introduced me to it in 1997, but by the time I reached the ninth grade I was sporting a Sunnydale High School shirt, earned the nickname “Angel” in my geometry class (as per my gel-fringed hair) and toted a tin “Buffy” lunchbox about school. Anyone who knows me also knows that my inspired-by-the-show-screename once led me to be mistaken for two hot young females rather than one nerdy, high-school aged “BtVS” fan. And then, of course, there’s the Buffy action figure I got for my 16th birthday (I say action figure because saying “doll” would just be embarrassing).

By the time I reached college, however, “Buffy” had — thanks to near unanimous critical praise and an ever-growing network of nerds like me — overcome its schlocky moniker and achieved at least peripheral

status in the pop culture pantheon. Though my interest in the show waned slightly after graduating high school, a visit to campus by Jane Espenson (one of the show’s most prominent writer-producers) during my sophomore year re-riled my slayer sympathies and found me more devoted to the show than ever.

“Buffy” may lack the kinetic, addictive quality of “The O.C.” or the tear-jerking melodrama of “Dawson’s Creek” (my other primetime faves) — but the show’s very refusal to settle into one definable genre is exactly what makes it so infinitely watchable. Witness the writers mercilessly toy with tongue-in-cheek references to high school and college demons as Buffy tries to slay both; marvel at the most heartbreaking (and probably only) mortal-vampire love affair ever to grace the small screen; watch as Sarah Michelle Gellar effortlessly evolves

See ‘BUFFY’ + page 12



SINGLED OUT
Jenny Lewis and the Watson Twins — “Handle With Care”
From her forthcoming *Rabbit Fur Coat* LP

M. Ward, Ben Gibbard and Conor Oberst ditch their day jobs to weigh in on this jaunty Traveling Wilburys cover from the Rilo Kiley frontwoman’s upcoming solo effort. While Ward’s verse lags in comparison to the more heartfelt hues of Lewis and Bright Eyes, it remains a fine folkin’ tribute.
— compiled by kyle meikle

WCWM TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1. *Multiply* — Jamie Lidell
- 2. *The Funky Side of Life* — Sound Directions
- 3. *Broken Social Scene* — Broken Social Scene
- 4. *Playing The Angel* — Depeche Mode
- 5. *Cripple Crow* — Devendra Banhart
- 6. *Apologies to the Queen Mary* — Wolf Parade
- 7. *Balkan Beat Box* — Balkan Beat Box
- 8. *I See No Stars* — Cake on Cake
- 9. *Strange Geometry* — Clientele
- 10. *Rehearsing My Choir* — Fiery Furnaces

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

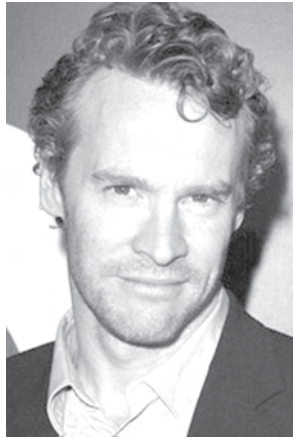
‘Life’ goes on

Those of you who thought that recent feuding between hotel heir-ess/internet legend Paris Hilton and thinner-but-scarier Nicole Richie meant “The Simple Life” was dead for sure, think again — E! Entertainment Television (obviously) bought the rights to the program last week. The fourth season, ironically subtitled “Till Death Do Us Part,” features the foxy pair dressing up and playing wives to different households each week. Insert “Mommy, what’s a ... ?” joke here.



Crowe phones home

Hollywood hothead Russell Crowe, who narrowly escaped criminal charges after pleading guilty to third-degree assault charges earlier this month (he, um, threw a phone handset at a hotel employee) made a mockery of the incident last weekend at the Australian Film Industry Awards. The actor, who hosted the event, jokingly referred to an old-fashioned telephone as his “little friend” (see: “Scarface”). The lesson here? Serious criminal charges equal pure comic gold.



Donovan ties the knot

Jimmy Cooper, Hercules, Rachel Green’s boyfriend and now ... husband? Everyone’s favorite “O.C.” punching bag, actor Tate Donovan, got hitched last week to his girlfriend of six years, Corinne Kingsburg. The ceremony saw the 42-year-old Donovan exchanging vows with his 29-year-old fiancée in a barefoot, low-key affair on a Malibu, Ca. beach. The actor had previously linked to the likes of Rachel Green herself (Jennifer Aniston) and Sandra Bullock. Go figure.



Nick and Jess no more

Yep, those “Newlyweds” DVDs just got a hell of a lot more entertaining. That’s right: a little over a month after their third wedding anniversary, everyone’s favorite they-were-so-(not-actually)-good-together couple Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey officially split last week amidst speculation of infidelity and unrest. Jeez, if mildly retarded pop stars on a reality show can’t make it work, do we even stand a chance?

— compiled by kyle meikle

WCWM 90.9 FM
FALL 2005
PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

SUNDAY
Mid.-2 a.m.: James Chase Coleman
“Freedom of Music”
2-4 p.m.: Anne Gessler
“Music from Under Anne’s Bed”
4-6 p.m.: Mika Mason
“Naive Melody”
6-8 p.m.: Matt Hoffman
“The Electric Kool-aide Indie Test”
8-10 p.m.: Andy Smith
“2 Hours of Awesome”

10 p.m. - Mid.: Matt Sherrill
“On the Count of Two”

MONDAY
4-6 p.m.: Bohuslav Rattay
“Colonial Classics”
Mid.-2 AM: Matt Sherrill
6-8 p.m.: Rachel Scheer
“Ray-list”
8-Mid: Chip Cotton & John Carriger
“Chip &

John’s Hybrid Show”
TUESDAY
4-6 p.m.: Roy Lenn
“The Power of Suggestion”
6-8 p.m.: Clayton Carr
“The Clayton and Dave Show”
8-Mid.: David Richards
“Krad Radio”
WEDNESDAY
10-Noon: Emily Flowers
“WCWM World Music”
Noon -2 p.m.: Andrew

Miller “Dr. Wurtzel-Baum’s Amazing Talking Machine!”
6-8 p.m.: Chris Elko
“120 British Minutes”
8-10 p.m.: Steve Calder and Abbie Pugh
10-Mid.: Brian Kelley
“Party O’Clock”
THURSDAY
Mid.-1 a.m.: Josh Specht
“Six Degrees of Separation.”

1-2 a.m. David Sievers
“The Reagan Years”
Noon-2 p.m.: Eric Van Orman
4-6 p.m.: Sammy Rogers
“Sammy Sam’s Jammy Jams”
6-8 p.m.: Adam Burks
“The Six O’Clock Hammer Party with Johnny Skruggs”
8-10 p.m.: Keyan Shahdi
“Time Rotation”
10 p.m.-Mid.: Sean Fox

“12 Step Program or, Now Hear This!”
FRIDAY
12-2 p.m.: Patrick Donaldson
“Shakedown Street”
2-4 p.m.: Alex Leon
“Radio Futura”
5 p.m.: Sandy Lesberg & Michael Faithful
“Sandy Lesberg’s World”
6-8 p.m.: Brian Kelley
“The Listening Session”

8-10 p.m.: Amy Shields
“Get Ready to Live”
10-Mid.: Ian Grymes
“Everything Hip-Hop”
SATURDAY
Mid.-2 a.m.: Russ Waddell
“Late Night Full Plate”
10-Noon: Bret Coates
“The Session”
Noon-2 PM: Daryl Cameron
“The Dog’s Bullocks”

We’ll miss you, too.

This is the last issue of The Flat Hat until Jan. 20th, so be sure to stock up on lots of movies, music and books in the meantime. E-mail reviews to fhrvws@wm.edu.

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‘FIRE’

FROM PAGE 11

no one is going to wonder what brought about the rating shift. I was, I bashfully admit, rather hoping to be surrounded by children shriekingly traumatized by “Goblet”’s blood and gore; the kiddies, though, were tough little buggers. None of them seemed too shaken up (of course, I didn’t have to tuck any of them into bed). On the other hand, Radcliffe’s bath scene, Herminone’s reference to someone having their “wand in a knot” and a wide shot of Beauxbatons ass — accompanied by Ron exclaiming “bloody hell!” — all had me and a few ’rents squirming in our seats. Rowling herself doesn’t seem sure how far to take the sexuality of her budding witches and wizards, but, particularly with, for-god’s-sake, children, indecision is the worst decision of all. Keep it clean or let’s have Potter whomp someone’s willow — coy teasing with 14-year-olds is disgusting.

The actual matter of “Goblet of Fire” is really quite enjoyable. The production values are of course impeccable and, however underused they are, sup-

porting performances from Michael Gambon, Alan Rickman and Maggie Smith remain a well-cast joy. In particular, I wish there was more of Jason Isaacs, who could phone in the role of Lucius Malfoy with Floo Powder and still be superb. The Tournament’s three challenges are all very well done, though one has to object to a greatly extended St. Harry vs. the Dragon when it comes at the expense of the entire match of the Quidditch World Cup. The pre-Yule Ball montage is a surprising pleasure, with Patrick Doyle getting good mileage from John Williams’ themes.

A friend of mine pointed out that “The Order of the Phoenix” is a far less cluttered book than its predecessor and that those adapting it will not be as hard-pressed to cram it all in to a two-and-a-half-hour film. I look forward to the calmer pace. Hopefully Harry can catch his breath in year five because, as Dumbledore says, “dark and difficult times lie ahead.” Every time Hogwarts fades out to final credits, I want them to include something like “but Harry Potter will return in ... ‘Thunderball!’” Failing that, the poor kid should get a nice wizard sabbatical somewhere tropical.

‘DERAILED’

FROM PAGE 11

offering he has made. There’s something very wrong when a Swedish man is directing a pop-up book American family, played by a Brit and an Aussie, that is put in peril by Jennifer freaking Aniston. Derailed? This one never leaves the station.

‘BUFFY’

FROM PAGE 11

Buffy from stake-wielding Valley Girl to grown-up surrogate mom with major mortality issues.

This is the stuff of genius, from the demon-makes-us-dance musical ep (“Once More, With Feeling”) to the demons-stole-our-voices silent ep (“Hush”) to the sex-is-evil one-two punch of “Surprise” and “Innocence.” Even more brilliant? All of the aforementioned episodes are from different seasons (sixth, fourth and second, respectively). There’s nary a weak link in the Buffyverse.

Thus, on that fateful November evening with “Buffy” box set in hand, I barely knew where to begin. Executive producer (and geek god) Joss Whedon never turned his back on the show and, well, it shows.

I spent most of Thanksgiving break revisiting the best of the “Buffy” bunch before settling in for the long haul; Buffy and Angel’s tormented romance, Willow’s transformation into sexy lesbian witch, Spike’s struggle with or without a soul — they all play out equally well on repeat viewings.

I have a feeling this outbreak won’t go away soon. I’m barely two discs deep and there’s always a whole world of love, hate and pain just an episode away. So thanks a lot Mrs. Freddie Prinze, Jr. You gave me herpes.

Kyle Meikle is a Flat Hat Reviews Editor. Neither Sarah Michelle Gellar nor Joss Whedon has ever given him herpes. Yet.



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Different strokes for different (swimming) folks. See RACKET, page 14.

WEAVING TOWARD THE SHOT



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT
Freshman forward Alex Smith squeezes through two University of Maine defenders during the Nov. 18 game. The Tribe won 89-55. In last Wednesday’s game against University of North Carolina – Wilmington, the Tribe suffered a 66-75 loss. The team’s record is now 4-2.

Football closes disappointing season with losing 5-6 record

By JEFF DOOLEY
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Tribe football’s 2005 season came to a disappointing end with losses in back-to-back weeks, with a 21-22 loss to the University of Delaware Blue Hens and a 7-41 loss to the University of Richmond Spiders. The Tribe ended their season with a four-game losing streak and finished with a record of 5-6. It is the first time since 2000 that the team finished the season with a losing record. The Tribe fell behind early in the Richmond game and was never able to recover. The Spiders opened with a field goal, then recovered the kickoff after the Tribe failed to come up with it. Richmond quarterback Stacy Tutt then drove his offense down the field and scored his first of three rushing touchdowns on the game to give his team a 10-0 lead. The Spiders dominated the rest of the half, holding the Tribe to only 20 offensive yards for the half and taking a commanding 34-0 lead. Tribe redshirt freshman quarterback Jake Phillips kept alive a glimmer of hope for a comeback with a 15-yard touchdown pass to redshirt freshman wide receiver Elliot Mack on the opening drive of the second half. The score proved to be the last for the Tribe, however, and Tutt’s 10-yard touchdown run with just over four minutes left in the game created the final score of 7-41. The previous week, the Tribe found themselves deadlocked 14-14 with the Delaware Blue Hens at the half. Phillips broke the tie with a 2-yard touchdown pass to sophomore fullback Matt Otey on the first drive of the second half. After the defense forced the Blue Hens’ offense into a three and out, Tribe junior defensive back Brandon Burrow blocked a punt, giving the Tribe offense the ball at the Delaware 11-yard line. The offense was unable to score, however, as they stalled and senior kicker Greg Kuehn missed a field goal, his second of three misses that day.

Two possessions later, Phillips was sacked in the end zone for a safety, awarding the Blue Hens two points and the ball, thereby cutting the Tribe lead to 21-16. “The ball just didn’t bounce our way today,” senior defensive back Stephen Cason said. The Tribe defense held Delaware to another three and out on their next possession, but the Tribe offense’s promising next drive ended as Phillips’ pass was intercepted at Delaware’s 38-yard line. Delaware, led by quarterback Sonny Riccio and tailback Omar Cuff (101 yards rushing for the game), then drove 62 yards on 11 plays, capping their scoring drive with a 6-yard touchdown pass from Riccio to receiver Aaron Love with 4 minutes, 17 seconds remaining. The Tribe offense got the ball back on the kickoff, but the drive ended with a turnover on downs. After the Tribe defense forced Delaware into a turnover on downs, the Tribe got one last chance with the ball at their own 34-yard line and 30 seconds left on the clock. With no timeouts remaining, the offense looked for a big pass play, but Phillips’ second pass on the drive was intercepted, ending the game at the final margin of 21-22, and handing the Tribe their second one-point home loss in two weeks. Phillips finished with a career-high 289 yards passing, and redshirt freshman running back DeBrian Holmes ran for 66 yards and caught seven passes for 57 yards. “It’s very tough, losing a game that close,” Head Coach Jimmie Laycock said. “We had a lot of chances, and we weren’t able to get it done.” The Atlantic 10 Conference named six Tribe players to the All-Conference second team Nov. 22: senior tight end Adam Bratton, junior tailback Elijah Brooks, Cason, Kuehn, senior center Patrick Mulloy, and junior H-back Matt Trinkle. Senior defensive end Adam O’Connor and junior offensive guard Cody Morris earned third team honors from the conference.



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT
Sophomore wide receiver Joe Nicholas plucks a pass high above the ground. The Tribe ended their season with a 7-41 loss to Richmond.

Talented UConn Huskies poised to clutch championship crown

FROM THE SIDELINES



Carl Siegmund

College basketball is upon us once again, and the early season has had a distinct March Madness atmosphere. There is probably no one more excited than Dick Vitale of ESPN, mainly because Duke University is the preseason number one and a favorite to win the national championship. But beyond Duke, there are a number of teams in the national championship mix. My prediction to win it all this year is the University of Connecticut. The Huskies have the talent and are led by sophomore swingman Rudy Gay, who is poised to develop into a big star. UConn had a solid regular season last year, going 13-3 in the Big East, but lost in the second round of the NCAA tournament. The only major offseason loss was forward Charlie Villanueva to the NBA, but the core of big men will not be completely depleted since they retain Josh Boone and Hilton Armstrong. A big key to Connecticut’s success this year will be whether point guard Marcus Williams,

who was suspended and charged with theft this summer, can return and continue to lead the team the way he did at the end of last season. Currently, he is scheduled to return Jan. 3 when the Huskies play Marquette University. Also, despite the fact that an overwhelming majority of experts are picking Duke guard J. J. Redick as the national player of the year, I believe Gonzaga University forward Adam Morrison will win. In the recent Maui Invitational, Morrison torched top competition, scoring 25 points in a win over the University of Maryland, 43 in a triple overtime win over Michigan State University and 18 in the championship game loss to UConn. Michigan State and UConn are considered NCAA title contenders, while Maryland is currently in the rankings. Morrison proved that he can excel against the best competition in the country. It is unlikely that he will get this sort of national exposure playing in the West Coast

Conference. Additionally, Morrison is more versatile than Redick and contributes greatly to the Zags on offense and defense. Redick is a pure jump shooter, but his game is not as well-rounded. Another factor working against Redick is his teammate Sheldon Williams, a candidate for the same award, and the chance that he could be overshadowed. Morrison also has a pretty intimidating moustache. Other people doubt that Morrison will win because Gonzaga plays in the West Coast Conference, a mid-major conference. However, there is precedent for players from a non-major conference winning the player of the year award. Two years ago St Joseph’s University (Atlantic 10) guard Jameer Nelson won and last year University of Utah (Mountain West) center Andrew Bogut won national player of the year, so small conference players definitely have a shot. As for this year’s Cinderella team, watch

out for Ohio University in the Mid-American Conference. The Bobcats grew by leaps and bounds as a team last year. They were predicted to finish last in the MAC, but in the conference tournament they won four games in six days, earning an automatic berth into the NCAA tournament. There, they almost upset the University of Florida in the first round. Now the starters, such as phenom point guard Jeremy Fears are older and ready for a breakout season. The Bobcats, like last year’s big Cinderella, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, which made it to the Sweet 16 after upsetting the University of Alabama and Boston College, are dangerous because they play up-tempo basketball. That’s how I see things shaping up this season. But as we all know, a lot can change in college basketball. Carl Siegmund is the sports columnist for The Flat Hat. Hooray for the break.

Kuehn considers future NFL options

By HEATHER IRELAND
THE FLAT HAT

Beyond graduation, many W&M students pursue a graduate degree or traditional career path, but senior Greg Kuehn, the number-one kicker for the football team, has something a little different in mind. This Eagle Scout, who managed to wrap up his collegiate performance with an Atlantic-10 record for career field goals while placing first on his team for total points scored this season, said he feels he can do more. With such an impressive college football career behind you, what potential football-related plans do you have beyond W&M? I plan to take off a year or two, acting as a free agent, in hopes of joining a team in the NFL. I’ll give it a good shot, but even if I end up not playing professionally, I still have my W&M degree to fall back on. As a biology and computer science major, what type of career do you plan to pursue with your degree? Whether I play for the NFL or not, I plan to go on to medical school in a few years. I want to stay involved with athletics beyond my days as a player, and so I would like to become an orthopedic surgeon. With your sights now set on the NFL, do you feel you might have had a better chance at that level if you had played at another college, better known for its strength in football? My goal was to enroll in a good college that was balanced both academically and athletically, and that is why I chose W&M over my other options. Football is important to me, but a good education needs to come first. How have you handled the juggling act between your classes, your team and your social life? Balancing all my activities has been very difficult, but I feel it has prepared me well for the next stage in my life. What would you say is the greatest memory or moment the team has had? What is your greatest moment on the field personally? Making it to the semi-finals and playing James Madison University under the lights was an unforgettable moment for the entire team. For me, my greatest moment was making a 46-yard field goal, into the wind, against JMU last year and winning the game for my team in overtime. Having accomplished so much in the four years you have attended W&M, what advice might you give to your peers? Don’t take life too seriously but also don’t be lazy. You always need to be sure to make things happen for yourself.

Swimming club

Life Sports: Get Involved

“You can come at your leisure,” sophomore Olga Grosh said. That much was obvious. Though nearly 50 college athletes use up the eight-lane Recreation Center pool in September, club swimming practices late in the semester are lucky to happen at all; sometimes attendance is limited to a coach and one or two dedicated swimmers. As people get busier and exams get closer, the club winds down in preparation for winter break.

“We usually have 10 to 20 people in the pool,” junior coach Matt Avilas said.

The rest is well-deserved for active club members after strong showings at the weekend-long Elon University swim conference, where the men’s team ranked fourth overall, beating out James Madison University for the spot. Freshman Will Eaton finished in first place in both the 50- and 100-yard breaststroke and freshman Kyle Dull finished first in the 500-yard freestyle. Other male standouts included freshmen Kyle Austin for the 100-yard backstroke and Chris Pascal for the 100-yard freestyle.

Club swimming is self-regulated with officers and student coaches who volunteer to design workouts or make them up on the spot. Practices are divided into competitive and non-competitive workouts, swimming 2,000 or 3,000 yards per night, respectively. This range accommodates club members, some of whom are accomplished competitors and some of whom are new to swimming.

With two meets per semester, club swimming always has an event to work toward. Along with the Elon conference, the Club swam its “Green & Gold” intersquad meet; these time trials provide seeding events and let swimmers evaluate their own skill level. Spring meets span weekends and involve vans and hotels; this year the club will be traveling to the University of Virginia and the University of North Carolina.

“It’s not an intense community,” freshman Alli Honenberger said. Though the end of the semester usually means a decline in practice attendance, the last practice of the semester featured a no-holds-barred match of water polo. The pool became a competitive arena for these practiced athletes. Sides were chosen and the ball was thrown into the pool.

Freshman Scott Schillereff was the blue team’s general, using quick throws to land the ball in the hands of open teammates, including Pascal, who joined the blue team halfway through the night in the stead of Grosh, who had sustained a ball-to-the-face injury. Pascal brought his immense height advantage, which allowed him great jumping saves as goalie.

Only one team could prevail for the night. Unfortunately, score keeping errors introduced a questionable margin of goals scored — a span of “a lot” to “not so much” — so we will never know which team won. Club swimming will resume practice after Christmas break. The club practices in eight lanes Monday through Thursday from 9:30 to 10:45 p.m. Dues are \$20 per semester.



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT

ALL: Members of the swimming club practice in the Recreation Center pool. While most practices involve normal swimming events, the last fall practice featured an intense game of water polo.

— by matthew a. nolan

DID YOU KNOW ... ?

Men’s swimming has been a part of the modern Olympics since the first games in 1896; women’s swimming was added in 1912.



Sports Calendar

Dec. 3 to Dec. 9

— compiled by louis malick

Saturday

- ♦ If you can get away from studying, go see men’s basketball take on Towson University in Towson, Md. at 4 p.m.

Sunday

- ♦ Women’s basketball goes in the opposite direction to play UNC, Wilmington in Wilmington, N.C. at noon.

Monday

- ♦ A great way to get in the zone on the first day of exams would be a few laps in the rec center pool, which is open from 7 to 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday

- ♦ Need to recover from that Calc exam? The yoga club will be meeting in W&M Hall’s FitWell Studio at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday

- ♦ Relax by kickboxing in the FitWell Studio at 5 p.m.

Thursday

- ♦ Check out the pilates class in the FitWell Studio at 6 p.m.

Friday

- ♦ The rec center is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., so you can get in a great workout before a weekend of studying.

Men’s, women’s swimming exceed expectations in fall season

BY ANDREW PIKE
THE FLAT HAT

Competing in the Terrapin Invitational at the University of Maryland, College Park, Nov. 17 to 19, W&M’s men’s and women’s swimming teams raced well and at times exceeded their coach’s expectations. On the women’s side, freshmen Marina Falcone and Whitney Pezza broke school records, while the men swam faster than Head Coach McGee Moody thought they were able to swim so early in the season.

Falcone, the first Tribe female to dip under five minutes in the 500-yard freestyle, finished in four minutes, 58.24 seconds, eclipsing the old mark by over three seconds. In the 200-yard butterfly, Pezza set the school record at 2:06.19 as she captured runner-up honors. Their efforts and those of the countless women who placed in W&M’s top-10 times helped the Tribe to a seventh-place finish. Falcone, Pezza, junior Kelly Reitz and sophomore Meredith David all recorded top-10 overall finishes at the meet in multiple events.

The Tribe men also competed well at the Terrapin Invitational, surprising Moody along the way.

“I think the biggest surprise was the times the guys put out at the Terrapin Invitational,” Moody said.

Freshman Jason Brisson swam the fastest preliminary time in the 200-yard individual medley and was the Tribe’s highest place finisher on day one, taking fourth in the 200 IM final. Brisson posted three times in the top-10 lists to lead the Tribe on day two. He and his teammates, like the women’s team, shook up W&M’s top-10 time lists. Senior captain Jake Albright, sophomores Alex Jendzjec and Brandon Paster and freshmen Brisson, Shane Kelsey and Shawn Matthews all placed in the overall top-10 in multiple events. Their strong performances pushed the Tribe past Maryland and to a fifth-place finish, the best of the season.

“One of our goals was to beat the host team, Maryland, which we did. Everyone stepped up, and

we really showed that we could hang with the bigger schools,” Brisson said.

Prior to the Terrapin Invitational, W&M hosted Georgetown University in a dual meet, and both the Tribe men and women prevailed. The women had 10 event winners, and both senior diving captain Laura Hodulik and junior Marnie Rognlien won two events. For the men, eight swimmers touched the wall first in their respective events.

These two meets concluded the fall portion of the swimming program’s team season. However, two individuals, Reitz and David, will represent W&M in the U.S. Open at Auburn University in Auburn, Ala. Dec. 1 to 3.

Reitz and David both qualified for this meet at the 2005 CAA Championships. Reitz will be swimming the 100-meter and 200-meter breaststroke, and David will be competing in the 100-meter backstroke. The U.S. Open brings together a deep field that includes over a dozen Olympians. Moody knows that these two swimmers will perform their best, and he said he hopes both make it into the finals. Moody said he believes having Reitz and David compete will provide the Tribe with great exposure on the national swimming scene and help improve his program’s recruiting.

Currently, the women stand at 6-3 overall and 5-0 in the CAA with the men at 3-5 overall and 2-2 in the CAA.

“We’re having a pretty good season. Kids are swimming faster than they were at this time last year,” Moody said.

With the end of the first half of the swimming season, both teams have set their sights on top-three finishes at the CAA Championships in February. Improvements still must be made in race strategy, but the spring season could end up being quite a success.

“We are really looking to finish the season up in a very big way, and with how hard everyone works in practice and at meets, I really think we can do it,” David said.

BOX SCORES

Women’s Basketball			NCAA Championship		
University of Pittsburgh	L 49-76	Nov. 18		22nd of 31	Nov. 21
Colgate University	W 64-62	Nov. 19	Women’s Cross Country		
Norfolk State University	W 70-43	Nov. 23	NCAA Southeast Regional	5th of 28	Nov. 12
Liberty University	L 56-73	Nov. 26	ECAC Championship	10th of 12	Nov. 19
Longwood University	W 82-58	Nov. 29	NCAA Championship	23rd of 31	Nov. 21
Men’s Cross Country			Volleyball		
NCAA Southeast Regional	1st of 30	Nov. 12	Georgia State University	W 3-2	Nov. 11
Ian Fitzgerald, 30:04.9, 3rd			UNC, Wilmington	W 3-1	Nov. 12
IC4A Championships	4th of 20	Nov. 19	Towson University	L 1-3	Nov. 19

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